

INTIMATIONS

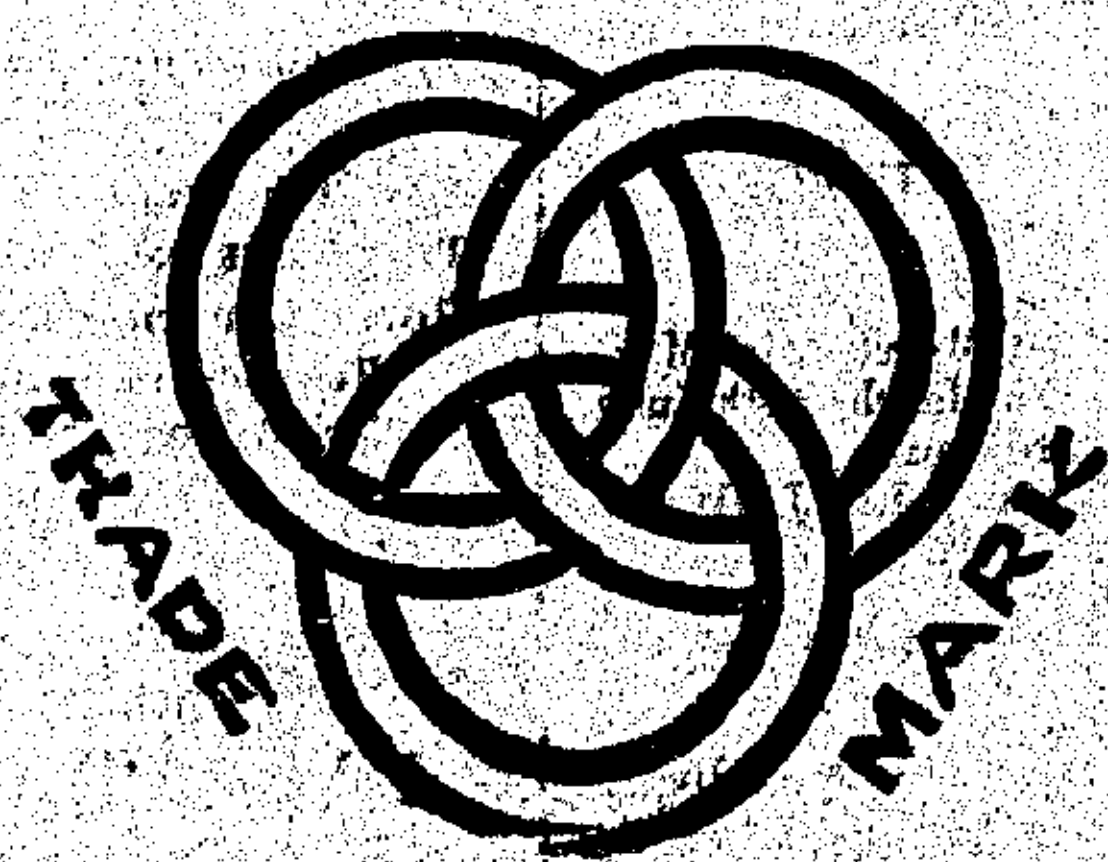
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HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB

A GOOD OPENING DAY.

MR. EZRA'S SUCCESS

Stewards.—H. E. Sir F. H. May, K.C.M.G., H.E. Vice-Admiral William L. Grant, C.B., H.E. Major-General F. Ventris, Commodore H. G. Sandeman, R.N., Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton, Hon. Mr. Chaudhry, C.M.G., Hon. Sir C. Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G., His Honour Sir W. Rees Davies, Kt., Mr. B. D. P. Beith, Mr. C. K. Hall, Branton, Lieut. Colonel I. B. F. Currie, C.B.A., Mr. H. J. Gedge, Mr. Henry Humphreys, Mr. G. H. Potts, Mr. N. J. Stabb, and Mr. H. P. White.

Stewards in Charge of the Scale.—Mr. B. D. P. Beith and Lieut. Col. E. B. F. Currie, C.B.A.

Handicapper.—Mr. Geo. K. Hall Branton.

Judge.—Mr. F. B. Marshall.

Assistant Judge.—Mr. D. M. Ross.

Paddock.—Mr. H. P. White.

Starter.—Mr. H. J. Gedge.

Second Starter.—Mr. Paul M. Hodgson.

Time Keeper.—Mr. M. S. Sassoon.

Honorary Treasurer.—Mr. H. C. Sandford.

Clerk of the Course.—Mr. T. F. Hough.

A large crowd, some keen racing, and ideal weather favoured the opening day of the Hongkong race meeting yesterday. H.E. the Governor was an early arrival, he being accompanied by Lady May, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Brown. All the stands were comfortably filled before the tiffin adjournment, the Chinese being, as usual, strongly represented. Generally speaking, however, the attendance for the opening day was not so large as usual, but it was thoroughly representative.

The racing was good throughout, and the fields, with very few exceptions, were also numerous, and very fair prices were paid in the pari-mutuel. In the two opening races a jockey was thrown, fortunately without any injury. Knoll and Fisher respectively being unseated soon after the start. In this connection it is interesting to note that the owner of Field Mouse and Brown Mouse (Mr. Henry Humphreys) has challenged the owner of the winning pony of the first race, Sol, to run a race over the same distance on the off-day. Field Mouse threw his jockey early in the opening race, and the challenge race will be for \$250 a side, the winner to give the money to War Charities.

The feature of the opening day's racing was the good fortune of Mr. Ezra, who opened a series of successes with a second place on Iron Duke and a dead heat in the next race on Triumph; a brilliant finish with Johnstone, who was riding Sandy. It was Ezra's day yesterday. From the sportsman's point of view, the most interesting item was the meeting of Victory Dahlia and Silver Streak, the two most fancied candidates for the Derby to-day. It was an entertaining race which Silver Streak won so easily that many have made up their minds already regarding the Derby result. Johnstone never once used his whip, and won in a canter by two lengths. Victory Dahlia's rider commenced whipping his mount half way along the run for home, and seemed to have plenty of work to do to secure second place. However, with a longer distance, it is quite possible that we shall see a change of positions to-day. When Victory Dahlia was led in it was quite surprising to see how fresh the pony looked. Those who have drawn the pony in a sweep have no need to be disappointed. In addition to this, there were several other interesting encounters between old stable rivals, and with the favourites not always winning, the day's racing was quite interesting from the backers' point of view.

There was a happy innovation in the cash sweeps this year, all those who drew runners being entitled to \$10. In the Derby and Championships, also, the drawers of runners will be entitled to \$100.

During the racing, the band of the 74th Punjabis rendered most enjoyable selections of music.

The full results were as follow—

THE WONG-NAI-CHONG STAKES.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. For China ponies, subscription griffins of any season non-winners. Half a mile.

Messrs. Beith & Ross' Sol, 11st 11lb (Mr. Johnstone) 1

Mr. A. R. Lowe's Brown Bess, 11st 11lb (Mr. Sedgwick) 2

Mr. Cottager's Ploughfield, 10st 12lb (Mr. Seth) 3

Mr. Adams' Hang On, 10st 10lb (Mr. Adams) 0

Mr. Billiards' The Jigger, 10st 13lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Mr. T. F. Hough's Cadrow's Star, 10st 12lb (Mr. Boyd) 0

Mr. Henry Humphreys' Field Mouse, 11st 11lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Medcoe's Moonstone, 10st 11lb (Mr. Barton) 0

Mr. Henry Morris' Lonsfield, 10st 12lb (Mr. Ezra) 0

Mr. Nemo's Whizz Bang, 11st 4lb (Mr. Heard) 0

Mr. Soares' Patrolini, 10st 4lb (Mr. Gage) 0

Mr. Yale's Old King Cole, 10st 10lb (Mr. Fisher) 0

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$6.70 Ticket No. 101, \$868.00
2, 36.30 118, \$845.00
3, 28.50 20, \$124.00

The following numbers drew runners:—

565, 7, 280, 200, 81, 120, 180, 90, 302.

There was some trouble in lining up, and it is a fairly level start. Field Mouse threw its rider. Jigger showed in front with Old King Cole second. The latter immediately overhauled the leader, but Sol took first place passing the Rock, leading by several lengths, followed by Old King Cole and Patrolini. Sol continued to lead and finished an easy winner, followed by Brown Bess, who assumed second place near the winning post with Ploughfield third. Won by three lengths, half-a-length between second and third.

Time, 1min. 1-5secs.

Fastest time 0.59secs.

THE MALDEN STAKES.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. For China ponies, subscription griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1916-1917 allowed 7lb. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. John Peel's Star of Doon, 10st 9lb (Mr. Johnstone) 1

Mr. Ezra's Iron Duke, 11st 7lb (Mr. Ezra) 2

Mr. Henry Humphreys' Brown Mouse, 11st 4lb (Mr. Knoll) 3

Mr. Barady's Peter Doody, 11st 11lb (Mr. Sedgwick) 0

Messrs. Beith and Ross' Ike, 10st 12lb (Mr. Fisher) 0

Messrs. Logan & Basto's Bright Pearl, 10st 10lb (Mr. Fisher) 0

Mr. Mase's Banjo, 11st 11lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Sir Paul's Choice Dahlia, 10st 12lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Soares' Warriorini, 10st 13lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Staves' Sinoia, 11st 4lb (Mr. Ezra) 1

Mr. H. P. White's Hajj, 10st 12lb (Mr. Heard) 0

Mr. H. P. White's Oak Bay, 11st 11lb (Mr. Boyd) 0

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$7.20 Ticket No. 83, \$1,008.87

1, 6.20 83, \$1,008.87

2, 12.50 89, \$29.25

3, 10.30 309, \$14.13

The following numbers drew runners:—

181, 236, 57, 230, 244, 254, 56, 204, 326.

Choice Dahlia took the lead after a good start, with Brown Mouse at the extreme rear. Approaching the football stand Bright Pearl threw her rider. At the bottom of the incline Hajj was in the van, closely followed by Iron Duke with Star of Doon third. Passing the Rock Hajj was in third place, and Star of Doon fourth. Round the village bend Iron Duke led with Ike second and Hajj third. At the bend entering the home straight the field bunched with Choice Dahlia, Hajj, Warriorini and Star of Doon level. At the distance post the ponies opened out and Star of Doon came to the front and won, after a close finish, with Iron Duke second and Brown Mouse third. Two lengths between first and second, half-length between second and third.

Time, 1min. 33.4secs.

Fastest time, 1min. 29.2secs.

THE POORHOP CUP.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. Handicap for all China ponies that have run at any previous official or Gymkhana Meeting. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. One mile and a half.

Mr. Ezra's Dixie, 10st 11lb (Mr. Ezra) 1

Sir Paul's Windsor Dahlia, 11st 5lb (Mr. Knoll) 2

Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Pingwu Chief, 10st 9lb (Mr. Heard) 3

Mr. Mase's Nyanza, 10st 8lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$17.80 Ticket No. 188, \$2,289.87

1, 9.10 41, \$54.25

2, 6.10 415, \$27.13

The following number drew a runner:—

155.

After a false start, in which Nyanza was left at the post, the ponies got away. Dixie drew ahead and got a good ten lengths in front of Nyanza. Windsor Dahlia then went in front, with Nyanza second and Pingwu Chief third, and Dixie fourth. Entering the straight Windsor Dahlia still led, and was first past the stand, followed by Dixie, Nyanza, and Pingwu Chief. At the back stretch and at Bowington Gate, Windsor Dahlia was still leading by three lengths, with Dixie second, Pingwu Chief half-a-length behind, and Nyanza five lengths in the rear. The field spread out still more at the bottom of the incline. Windsor Dahlia slightly increased his lead, but Dixie sharply challenged him and reduced the gap between them. At the Rock and down the incline Windsor Dahlia still led, but at the mile-post Dixie, by a fine effort, drew in front, with Windsor Dahlia second and Pingwu Chief third. At the distance post Windsor Dahlia drew in a length on Dixie. Then ensued a stiff struggle between the leaders, Dixie securing a good win. Won by two lengths, half-a-length between second and third.

Time, 3min. 14.2secs.

Fastest time, 3min. 9secs.

THE TATA PLATE.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. For China Ponies, subscription griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1916-1917 allowed 7lb. Winner of the Maiden Stakes 7lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5lb. Entrance \$10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

Mr. John Peel's Silver Streak, 10st 9lb (Mr. Johnstone) 1

Sir Paul's Victory Dahlia, 11st 11lb (Mr. Knoll) 2

Messrs. Beith & Ross' Yid, 10st 12lb (Mr. Sedgwick) 3

Mr. Ezra's Victory, 11st 11lb (Mr. Ezra) 0

Mr. Henry Humphreys' Tittlemouse, 10st 9lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Formosa Chief, 11st 11lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Sir Paul's Oward Dahlia, 11st 11lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Messrs. H. P. White & N. J. Stabb's Capilano, 11st 11lb (Mr. Heard) 0

The following numbers drew runners:—

466, 131, 17, 497, 306, 48.

THE VALLEY STAKES—Winner \$500

Second \$200. Third \$100. For China ponies, subscription griffins of this season 1916-1917. Weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. John Peel's Drumstick, 11st 11lb (Mr. Johnstone) 1

Sir Paul's Dandy Dahlia, 10st 7lb (Mr. Knoll) 2

Mr. Charles' Hush Hush, 11st 4lb (Mr. Heard) 3

Mr. Oliver Cromwell's Ironside, 11st 11lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Mr. Gonhead's Moneybox, 10st 12lb (Mr. Boyd) 0

Messrs. Logan & Basto's Peppercorn, 11st 11lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Mr. John Peel's Drumlog, 10st 12lb (Mr. Fisher) 0

Mr. Shellin's Black Cloud, 10st 12lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Sleg's Golliwog, 11st 11lb (Mr. Ezra) 0

Mr. Staves' Sangala, 11st 11lb (Mr. Hayes) 0

Messrs. Thomas & Sedgwick's Tom Cobleigh, 10st 9lb (Mr. Sedgwick) 0

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$16.10 Ticket No. 246, \$1,377.25

1, 6.10 246, \$1,377.25

2, 6.00 217, \$33.50

3, 7.30 111, \$19.75

The following numbers drew runners:—

169, 287, 173, 345, 342, 327, 66, and 52.

From a good start, Tom Cobleigh went to the front with Sangala last. At the bottom of the incline Golliwog was leading, Drumstick was second and Tom Cobleigh third. Near the Rock, Drumstick forged ahead by two lengths from Golliwog, Tom Cobleigh still being third. Down the incline Drumstick led from Golliwog, Hush Hush coming strongly, taking third position on the rails. Well into the home stretch Drumstick still led and Dandy Dahlia made a fine effort, but too late, Drumstick winning well. Two lengths between first and second, and a length and half between second and third.

Time, 1min. 33secs.

Fastest time, 1min. 29.2secs.

THE POORHOP CUP.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. Handicap for all China ponies that have run at any previous official or Gymkhana Meeting. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. One mile and a half.

Mr. Ezra's Dixie, 10st 11lb (Mr. Ezra) 1

Sir Paul's Windsor Dahlia, 11st 5lb (Mr. Knoll) 2

Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Pingwu Chief, 10st 9lb (Mr. Heard) 3

Mr. Mase's Nyanza, 10st 8lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$17.80 Ticket No. 188, \$2,289.87

1, 9.10 41, \$54.25

2, 6.10 415, \$27.13

The following number drew a runner:—

155.

After a false start, in which Nyanza was left at the post, the ponies got away. Dixie drew ahead and got a good ten lengths in front of Nyanza. Windsor Dahlia then went in front, with Nyanza second and Pingwu Chief third, and Dixie fourth. Entering the straight Windsor Dahlia still led, and was first past the stand, followed by Dixie, Nyanza, and Pingwu Chief. At the back stretch and at Bowington Gate, Windsor Dahlia was still leading by three lengths, with Dixie second, Pingwu Chief half-a-length behind, and Nyanza five lengths in the rear. The field spread out still more at the bottom of the incline. Windsor Dahlia slightly increased his lead, but Dixie sharply challenged him and reduced the gap between them. At the Rock and down the incline Windsor Dahlia still led, but at the mile-post Dixie, by a fine effort, drew in front, with Windsor Dahlia second and Pingwu Chief third. At the distance post Windsor Dahlia drew in a length on Dixie. Then ensued a stiff struggle between the leaders, Dixie securing a good win. Won by two lengths, half-a-length between second and third.

Time, 3min. 14.2secs.

Fastest time, 3min. 9secs.

THE TATA PLATE.—Winner \$500. Second \$200. Third \$100. For China Ponies, subscription griffins on date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Subscription griffins of this season 1916-1917 allowed 7lb. Winner of the Maiden Stakes 7lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5lb. Entrance \$10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

Mr. John Peel's Silver Streak, 10st 9lb (Mr. Johnstone) 1

Sir Paul's Victory Dahlia, 11st 11lb (Mr. Knoll) 2

Messrs. Beith & Ross' Yid, 10st 12lb (Mr. Sedgwick) 3

Mr. Ezra's Victory, 11st 11lb (Mr. Ezra) 0

Mr. Henry Humphreys' Tittlemouse, 10st 9lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Formosa Chief, 11st 11lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Sir Paul's Oward Dahlia, 11st 11lb (Mr. Seth) 0

Messrs. H. P. White & N. J. Stabb's Capilano, 11st 11lb (Mr. Heard) 0

The following numbers drew runners:—

466, 131, 17, 497, 306, 48.

Pari-Mutuel Cash Sweep

Winner: \$3.50 Ticket No. 489, \$2,083.43

1, 7.30 333, \$98.12

3, 15.70 193, \$29.07

The following numbers drew runners:—

177, 615, 604, 108, 239.

From a good start Victory Dahlia and Silver Streak went ahead together, with the rest of the field closely bunched on their heels. First past the post was Silver Streak, on the rails. Onward Dahlia making the pace for his stable companion. At the back stretch Onward Dahlia forced the pace and had a two lengths lead from Silver Streak, with Victory Dahlia third. Tittlemouse fourth and Yid last. Onward Dahlia still forced the pace and increased his lead from Silver Streak to five lengths, Victory Dahlia being third. Down the incline and round the village bend into the home straight, Onward Dahlia led by a length from Silver Streak, with Tittlemouse third. At the second milepost Silver Streak took the lead and was challenged by Victory Dahlia on the outside. Silver Streak landed home a somewhat easy first, winning by two lengths. There was one length between Victory Dahlia and Yid for second place.

Time, 2min. 19secs.

Fastest time, 2min. 15 3/5secs.

THE GARRISON CUP.—Presented by the Officers of the Garrison. \$200 added for Winner. Second \$200. Third \$100. For China ponies, subscription griffins of any season. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at previous Meetings of one race 7 lb; of more than one 14 lb; at this Meeting 3 lb extra. Penalties. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5 lb. One mile.

Mr. Ezra's Trojan, 10st 12lb (Mr. Ezra) 1

Mr. Dynasty's King Ben, 10st 9lb (Mr. Heard) 2

Mr. George Hastings' Spalpeen, 10st 12lb (Mr. Johnstone) 3

Mr. Gonhead's Matchbox, 11st 12lb (Mr. Boyd) 0

Mr. Horsford's Crosby, 11st 8lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Sir Paul's Magic Dahlia, 10st 11lb (Mr. Knoll) 0

Mr. Soares' Khakiini, 11st 11lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Mr. Staves' Sangala, 11st 11lb (Mr. Hayes) 0

Mr. Wayfoong

Silverwood took the lead from the start with Mansur in close attendance and Heroloni last. At the back stretch Mansur led. Heroloni going into second place. Passing the football stand Mansur got to the front, with Heroloni second and Jacobite third. Heroloni, forcing the pace, ran into first place, with Mansur as a partner all the way up to the Rock. Glory Pearl half-a-length behind, third. Down the incline Heroloni had a half-length lead from Glory Pearl, with Mansur third, and Dalny Chief fourth, and Jacobite, a long way behind, last. Round the bend Heroloni and Glory Pearl raced hard in the van. At the distance post Dalny came strongly to the front and, successfully challenging the leader, ran home a strong winner by a length. Half-a-length divided (Adams) and Town Mouse in second and third places respectively.

Time, 2min. 5-secs.
Fastest time, 2min. 2 2/5-secs.

The Jockey Club Stakes—Winner \$500. Second \$250. Third \$125. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Grifins allowed 5lb. Subscriptions grifins of this season 1916-1917 allowed 10lb. Winners at this meeting 5lb. extra. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Ezra's General Birdwood, 1st 9lb. (Mr. Ezra) 1
Mr. Henry Humphrey's Northland, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Knoll) 2
Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's Australasia, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Knoll) 3
Chief, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Knoll) 3
Sir Paul's Giant Dahlia, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Knoll) 3
Pari-Mutuel. Cash Sweep.
Winner: \$20.30 Ticket No. 23, \$1,853.00
1. 3.30 25, 853.00
2. 6.50 373, 270.00

The following number drew a runner:—619.

General Birdwood went off with a lead at the start, Australian Chief being last. Giant Dahlia subsequently led, with General Birdwood second and Northland third. Passing the post for the first time Giant Dahlia and General Birdwood were close together in the order named.

The quartette kept these positions for a considerable distance, then Northland drew up with the leader at the bottom of the incline, General Birdwood falling away, with Australian Chief in the third position. Near the Rock the leaders closed up, with Giant Dahlia in front. At the bend Northland, forcing the pace, challenged the leader and raced with him neck and neck into the home straight. The other pair a length behind. It was a fine race home, General Birdwood winning by a short head, from Northland, Australian Chief a length and a half behind.

Time, 2min. 44 4/5-secs.
Fastest time, 2min. 32 2/5-secs.

Tue RACING STAKES—Winner \$500. Second \$250. Third \$100. For China ponies, subscription grifins of this season 1916-1917. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners 5lb. extra. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in Hongkong, Shanghai or Tientsin allowed 5lb. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Henry Humphrey's Field Mouse, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Knoll) 1
Messrs. Beith and Ross' Mo, 1st 9lb. (Mr. Johnstone) 2
Mr. Dalmore's Merry Monarch, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Adams) 3
Mr. Adams' Amphion, 1st 7lb. (Mr. Adams) 0
Mr. Barfield's Bridgworth, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Muller) 0
Messrs. Beith and Ross' Sol, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Heald) 0
Mr. Ezra's Chieftain, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Ezra) 0
Mr. Medico's Jadestone, 1st 8lb. (Mr. Barton) 0
Mr. Nemazee's Sahab, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Seth) 0
Mr. John Pol's Dunlop, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Fisher) 0
Mr. Staves' Sonobers, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Hayes) 0
Messrs. Thomas and Sedgwick's Tom, 1st 9lb. (Mr. Sedgwick) 0
Mr. Yale's Old King Cole, 1st 11lb. (Mr. Gace) 0
Pari-Mutuel. Cash Sweep.
Winner: \$35.50 Ticket No. 30, \$1,986.54
1. 6.70 280, 551.87
2. 8.00 280, 551.87
3. 11.30 401, 990.94

The following numbers drew runners:—227, 490, 558, 517, 274, 301, 202, 337, 156, 310.

Field Mouse got away first, with Merry Monarch second. At the bend Sahab took second place, with Mo a good fourth. Passing the Rock, Mo got into third position, Sahab leading. Sahab led all the way to the village bend. Field Mouse here forced the pace till the home straight was reached. He was challenged by Mo and the pair raced neck-and-neck. Field Mouse ultimately galloping home first by a head. There was a fine struggle for second place, Mo winning by two lengths.

Time, 1min. 52-secs.
Fastest time, 1min. 48 1/5-secs.

TO-DAY'S SELECTIONS.

RACE	SELECTIONS.
Derby.	Silver Streak (win).
Jockey Cup.	Ploughed Field.
Exchange Plate.	Dixie.
Seb. Griffin's Chal.	Trojan.
Ching Cup.	Stacy.
Lusitano Cup.	Mr. Kadoorie's selected.
Chalange Cup.	Northland.
Royal Navy Stakes.	Merry Monarch.
Black Rock Stakes.	Jacobite.
Gymkhana Club Cup.	Creeby.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Of course, everyone knows which pony "cannot lose" the Derby and the Champions. The optimism of a sportsman is only equalled by his superstition. I met a man the other day who was like a live wire in anticipation of a sudden accession of wealth. "I can't lose," he declared. "The other day I was walking along the road when a black cat dashed into me, snuggled against my leg and purred. I wondered at this, but, upon looking down, saw that it had laid a mouse at my feet. Soon afterwards, someone asked me for a match, and, of course, I produced my box. I thought over these occurrences afterwards; and my money is going where fate has evidently destined that it shall go." "Matchbox" and some of the Mice will have, at least, one ardent supporter.

Hongkong seems to be waking up at last to the fact that the Empire is engaged in a life and death struggle. Fifteen months after a contributor to this paper was rebuked for suggesting the propriety of releasing another hundred men for the front we find a War Service Commission aiding the flow of recruits to the Colours, and H.E. the Governor plumping for the extension of Conscription to the Colony, although in the meantime half-a-hundred police and various members of the general community have made their way to one or other of the theatres of war. A loan of \$3,000,000 has been raised recently for the purpose of presenting a gift to the Imperial War Chest, another \$2,000,000 is being added to it from surplus revenues, and at the last meeting of the Legislative Council the Governor hinted at the introduction of fresh taxation still further to increase the contribution. In addition, a War Savings Association has been successfully started. Those who criticised the Colony's supineness in the past were frequently referred to in disparaging terms, but, methinks, they can afford to smile with satisfaction now.

Rumour has it that there is joy in more than one heart that the Military Commission conducts its inquiries behind closed doors. A preaching patriot, who only a few weeks ago had almost bullied a younger man into the belief that unless he was willing to throw up a lucrative billet and "risk all the consequences" he was the worst type of "shirker" was unexpectedly informed by his employers the other day that he himself was at liberty to send in his application to the Commission. Thereupon, they say, his ardour seemed to cool, and he went before the Tribunal with a very "weak heart" and a notebook full of reasons for remaining in the Colony. Meanwhile, "the disgraceful young shirker" had cheerfully volunteered and been passed for service. Several of those who but a short time ago were loudly lamenting their inability to show their practical patriotism seem to have suddenly grown resigned to their fate.

A correspondent says it is evident that President Wilson has not used up all the available stocks of paper for his Peace Notes. The Military Commission's communications to applicants for active service are printed on sheets of paper the size of afternoon tea-cloths and enclosed in envelopes as big as pillow-cases. Yet when the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council was asked in December last to vote a sum of \$11,424 in aid of "Miscellaneous Service," the Colonial Secretary explained that it was due entirely to the increased cost of paper, adding: "Every effort has been made to keep down expenses in stationery." After getting the money asked for, I suppose, they "let themselves go a bit" to make up for past thrift. Anyhow, the price of paper has increased, if anything, since then, and seems likely to soar still higher.

A letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies was laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting inviting Hongkong to submit its views in regard to the recommendations of the Allies' Economic Conference for submission to the forthcoming meeting of the Imperial Council. Although the letter was written last September and stated that its contents could be made public this was the first intimation to the general community that it had been received, and it was unaccompanied by a single word of

(Continued at foot of next column.)

GUARDING THE CHANNEL.
DESTROYER FLOTILLA'S CARE OF OUR SHIPPING.

When the duties of the Dover Patrol are broadly enumerated it will at once be recognised how important a part it plays in the great drama of sea warfare which is being enacted ceaselessly by day and by night. They are as follows:—
1. To conduct operations during favourable seasons on the Belgian coast.
2. To guard the whole of the entrance to the Channel.
3. To protect shipping in its passage through the patrol area.
4. To assist in protecting the flank of the sea transport to and from the British Army in France.
Twice in recent months there have been "trip-and-run" raids into the Channel by swift German destroyers let slip on black nights from their bases on the Belgian coast. After the second of these enterprises some voices were raised in the cry, "What is wrong with the Dover Patrol?"

The truth is, of course, that the public were startled by the enemy's achievement. It is equally the truth that the Navy was not, it knows its business far too well for that. A fact that should be borne in mind is that Ostend is nearer to Dover than Brighton is, and that there are literally express raids. Germany has destroyed as fast as our own, and it implies no want of vigilance that on two occasions they should have succeeded in making a dash across from the other side.

The last time, they came they stayed about five minutes, looted off a few shots, and bolted back without more ado. They would probably have paid dearly had they elected to make their visit of only a very little longer duration. But Master Hun is wily at sea as well as on land. Searching for enemy vessels in a big area of water on nights of utter darkness is work that cannot always succeed. The Americans have a saying about "A nigger in a dark cellar looking for a black cat that was not there," which may be called in aid as a not inappropriate illustration of the kind of job the Navy has to undertake. If the cat is there—sooner or later the Navy will catch it though it may get in a few scratches first.

But, turning from the subject of raids to what may be described as the principal work of the patrol, results are apparent sufficient to dispel any doubts regarding the protective service rendered to the mercantile marine. In due season no doubt, there will be another despatch from the commander of the patrol but until that is available one must be content to give figures for an earlier period.

In six months 21,000 merchant ships, apart from men-of-war and auxiliaries, passed through the patrol. Of these only 21 were lost or seriously damaged by the enemy.

This "very considerable security to our merchant shipping" there is every reason to believe continues to this day in the area of the patrol.

As it specially indicated that the Chamber of Commerce should be consulted this has, no doubt, been done, but the subject-matter is one of great complexity and of vital concern to every resident in the Colony.

"Volunteer Reserve" writes to me as follows:—"I do not think it was in the best of taste for a certain Police Reserve Officer to say: 'What is more, our pay-sheet shows that, from Superintendent to Constable, we have not had a ten-cent piece between us since we started. No other local auxiliary can say that.' Does he imply that we (the Reserves) are making money out of our work? Each time I mount guard—which is only about once a month, admitted—I receive about 90 cents, but it costs me \$1.50 for my dinner. A simple calculation will show that my banking account is not growing very fast as a result of my little service to the Empire. Of course, it may be that the Police Reservists, who are doing much valuable work, consider they should receive some tangible recognition of their services, but even this does not warrant the 'dig' referred to."

Motorists are hoping that the Government will take heed of the hint given by one of a pair of motorists who recently circled the island, and lay out a fine, broad roadway—similar to that leading to Deep Water Bay, between Tytkin and Shaukiwan, thus enabling motorists to run round the island without danger or discomfort. Personally, I share the opinion of those who maintain that such an expensive undertaking should, in common with even more desirable public works, be shelved until after the war. The money required to construct such a roadway can be much more usefully employed at the present time, and the Government should set an example of economy.

Everyone must have been pleased to read that the campaign against smallpox has almost achieved its purpose, thanks, in large measure, to the energy with which it has been conducted by Dr. Woodman, Mr. Tso and others. Each week now the number of cases is decreasing, and the Chinese are coming forward freely to be vaccinated. All fatalism and superstition having been banished from their minds, by Mr. Tso and his assistants. It has been an anxious time for the Sanitary Authorities, and though it cannot yet be stated that the epidemic is at an end, it is evidently well under control. "Windblows," "shadows," and "fear of foreigners" now find no place in the fatalistic creed of the Chinese when a member of the family becomes affected. The Chinese, however, would very much like the Government to allow the cases to be treated at home. In this they appear to have the sympathy of the local medical profession.

RODERICK RANDOM.

SPORT.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

DOCKYARD RECREATION CLUB v. TAIKOO.

The Dockyard Recreation Club spent a very pleasant afternoon on the Taikoo Range on Saturday, when they defeated the home team by 28 points. Scores:—

DOCKYARD RECREATION CLUB.	200	500	600
Mr. Goodman	31	31	31
Mr. Lockhart	31	31	31
Mr. Sears	30	30	30
Mr. Cousens	30	32	28
Mr. Elson	31	28	27
Mr. Brock	30	30	24
Mr. Wright	27	24	31
Mr. Allan	27	23	13
	237	220	213

TAIKOO.	200	500	600
Mr. Simpson	30	30	32
Mr. Lyle	28	32	30
Mr. Eldridge	27	30	30
Mr. Heath	31	29	25
Mr. Danby	23	21	25
Mr. Nicol	28	27	22
Mr. Grimshaw	25	24	25
Mr. Whitelaw	25	23	18
	215	229	207

POLICE AND POLICE RESERVES v. TAIKOO.

This match at King's Park ended in a win for the Police by 11 points. Scores:—

POLICE AND POLICE RESERVES v. CLUB.	200	500	600
Insp. J. Grant	30	31	30
Ch. Insp. Sirdar Khan	28	27	33
Sergt. G. Grimmett	28	32	30
A. S. P. Franks	28	29	30
Trooper H. Helph	31	28	24
Ch. Insp. Mason	25	28	24
C/Sergt. Pitt	25	22	22
Sergt. Devaney	28	20	22
	220	213	215

TAIKOO R.C.

TAIKOO R.C.	200	500	600
Mr. J. D. Danby	29	27	34
Mr. J. Simpson	26	33	30
Mr. W. J. Eldridge	28	29	28
Mr. A. Nicol	29	31	24
Mr. W. Murray Scott	24	26	32
Mr. D. L. Lyle	23	30	27
Mr. H. T. Heath	27	24	30
Mr. T. Grimshaw	25	25	21
	213	225	226

Less 4 per cent. for aperture sights 27

637

CRICKET.

CIVIL SERVICE C.C. v. A NAVAL TEAM.

Played on the Civil Service ground, the home team winning by 34 runs. D. M. Goodall made the highest score of the match with 44 (not out). Scores:—

CIVIL SERVICE.	0	R.	W.
E. W. Dawson, run out	0		
D. M. Goodall, not out	44		
R. E. O. Bird, b Godfrey	4		
E. G. Southerton, c Pile, b Godfrey	0		
S. W. Hamilton, b Pratt	26		
C. S. Tacchi, b Godfrey	5		
B. W. Bradbury, b Pratt	28		
C. Sara, c Pile, b Pratt	0		
S. E. Alderman, c Godfrey, b Wild	1		
W. H. Edmonds, run out	0		
Extras	4		
Total	114		

	0	R.	W.
Pratt	18	37	3
Godfrey	13	43	3
Wild	4	30	1

NAVAL TEAM.

NAVAL TEAM.	0	R.	W.
A. P. M. Robinson, at Tacchi, b Bird	4		
A. S. Pile, b Bird	2		
S. Garey, lbw., b Hamilton	12		
J. Cheave, b Hamilton	2		
A. P. M. Wild, b Hamilton	14		
Lieut. Hall, b Hamilton	7		
Sub. Lt. Golland, b Southerton	18		
P. O. Dawson, b Hamilton	1		
S. Godfrey, not out	9		
C. P. O. Pratt, b Southerton	4		
Pto. Cook, run out	1		
Extras	6		
Total	80		

	0	R.	W.
Hamilton	10	30	5
Bird	8	32	2
Southerton	2	12	2

THE ADVENTURERS.

"England was never made by her Statesmen; England was made by her Adventurers."—General Gordon.

They sit at home and they dream and dally, Basking the embers of long-dead years. But ye go down to the haunted Valley, Light-hearted pioneers.

They have forgotten they ever were young, They hear your songs as an unknown tongue.

But the Flame of God through your spirit stirs, Adventurers—O Adventurers!

They weigh and ponder, and shilly-shally, Wielding the pen, who are past the sword.

But ye go down to the mystic Valley, That never was yet explored, The brood over obsolete ways and means, Their eyes confusing the grey and green.

But no tradition your vision blurs, Adventurers—O Adventurers!

They tithe their herbs and they count their tally, Choosing their words that a phrase may live.

But ye cast down in the hungry Valley All that a man can give, They prophesy smoothly, with weary smile, Fulfilling their feeble appointed while.

But Death himself to your pride defers, Adventurers—O Adventurers!

MAY BYRON (The Spectator).

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

TELEPHONE 1741.

NEW GOODS
FOR THE
RACES

LARGE SELECTIONS

AT

MODERATE PRICES.

GENTLEMEN'S LONDON MADE SHIRTS

WHITE WOOL TAFFETA, LONG CLOTH, ZEPHYR,

AERTEX CELLULAR AND COTELLA SHIRTS,

IN ALL SIZES \$2.75 TO \$5.75 EACH.

IRISH LINEN COLLARS

ALL SHAPES \$4.50 PER DOZEN.

THE LATEST STYLES IN

HATS, TIES, SOCKS, ETC., ETC.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

DRINK
"BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.
SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED.
BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT:—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per dozen.

Cheong Tai.

Nam Hing Loong.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

Ty Sing.

of 8 dozen.

Sang Tai.

Kwan Typ.

or \$3.40 per dozen.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Obtainable in Canton from

Sincere Co., Ltd.

Stocked by

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

Admitted to be the Best

Lager Beer brewed.

FRESH STOCK—JUST ARRIVED.

Wm. Powell Ltd.

TELEPHONE 546

SMART DAY
AND
EVENING GOWNS

AT

SPECIAL PRICES THIS WEEK

TO CLEAR

BEFORE STOCKTAKING.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that there will be NO OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS during the Three Race Days, viz.: 26th, 27th and 28th inst.

By Order of the Committee.
R. MANCOCK,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong, 26th February, 1917. [345]

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE THIRTY-THIRD ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at St. George's Buildings, Chater Road, Victoria, on SATURDAY, the 10th March, 1917, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 5th March, 1917, until SATURDAY, the 10th March, 1917, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1917. [344]

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.
MATRICULATION, SENIOR AND JUNIOR LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that these EXAMINATIONS will commence on MONDAY, July 6th, 1917.

Arrangements will be made to hold the Examination at any town where a sufficient number of candidates offer themselves. Candidates who wish to be examined at any other place than Hongkong or Shanghai must apply to the Registrar on or before April 2nd, 1917.

Forms of entry and all particulars can be obtained on application to the REGISTRAR, THE UNIVERSITY, HONGKONG.

The entry form, duly filled in, must reach the Registrar, together with the fee (Ten Dollars, Hongkong Currency) on or before May 2nd, 1917.

The following Scholarships and Prizes will be awarded on the results of the Matriculation Examination, provided that candidates of sufficient merit offer themselves:

(a) Two King Edward VII. Scholarships of £40 a year each, for five years, tenable in any Faculty. A Candidate for these Scholarships must be under the age of 21 on July 1st, and must before the first day of the Examination submit to the Registrar proof that he is a British subject.

(b) One President's Scholarship of Four Hundred Dollars (Peking Currency) for five years, tenable in any Faculty. A Candidate for this Scholarship must be under the age of 21 years on July 1st, and must before the first day of the Examination submit to the Registrar proof that he is the son of a Chinese Parent, that he was not born in any British Possession or Protectorate, that he has not adopted any foreign nationality, and that he is not eligible to compete for a King Edward VII. Scholarship.

(c) Two Chinese General Chamber of Commerce Scholarships of 300 Dollars a year each, for 4 years, tenable in the Faculty of Engineering. These Scholarships will be awarded to poor students who would otherwise be unable to enter the University.

(d) Five cash prizes of \$100 each (Hongkong Currency).

Candidates who secure King Edward VII. or President's Scholarships or cash prizes must enter the University on the day on which the University Session opens and must reside in one of the hostels directly managed by the University.

The Examinations will be conducted according to the Regulations for the Senior and Junior Local Examinations and for the Matriculation Examination, 1917.

[345]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 1st March, to SATURDAY, 31st March, 1917, both days inclusive.

The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. [329]

IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN PENTONY, DECEASED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all CREDITORS and other persons in China having any claims or demands against the estate of JOHN PENTONY, late of 8, Shop Street, Drogheda, in the County of Louth, Ireland, and of The Merchant Service Club, Shanghai, China, deceased, who died on the 24th April, 1916, and Letters of Administration to whose real and personal estate were granted by His Majesty's High Court of Justice in Ireland to MARY PENTONY, of No. 8, Shop Street, Drogheda aforesaid, and resealed in His Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China in Shanghai by me, the undersigned, Attorney for the said MARY PENTONY, are hereby required to send particulars in writing of their claims or demands to me on or before the 26th day of February, 1917, at the undermentioned address, after which date the assets of the said JOHN PENTONY deceased situate in China will be forwarded to the said Administratrix, who will not thereafter accept liability in respect of any of such assets of the said JOHN PENTONY deceased or any part thereof to any person or persons residing in China of whose claims or demands I shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 5th day of February, 1917.
HERBERT W. LOOKER,
Attorney for the Administratrix,
MARY PENTONY,
1, Des Voeux Road Central,
Hongkong. [293]

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1917.

TO-DAY (TUESDAY), TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), AND SATURDAY (OFF-DAY).

FEBRUARY 27TH, 28TH AND 3RD MARCH.

TICKETS of ADMISSION to the GRAND STAND and ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Ltd., or at the Gate. Price \$10 for the Meeting (excluding the Off-Day), or \$4 per day. Tickets for the Off-Day, \$3.

No one admitted without a Ticket, to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [330]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE STEWARDS request the pleasure

of the presence of the LADIES at the GRAND STAND and the ENCLOSURE during the Races.

A Band and Enclosure will be reserved for Members and Members' Wives and Families. Tickets for which are being sent out with the Members' Tickets.

All Tickets must be produced to gain admission.

Special accommodation will be reserved in recent years for Chinese Ladies and their Female attendants in the Stand erected on the plot of ground next to the Lusitano Club Stand.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [331]

NOTICE.

A PROPOS of the above, Members are hereby notified that although Members of the JOCKEY CLUB are entitled to free admission to the Enclosure and Stands during the Race Meeting, an opportunity is given to them to make a special contribution to the War Charities by also purchasing an admission Ticket at the Gate. A Book will be in care of the Gate Keeper in which Members are asked to record any such purchases.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [332]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NO Servants will be allowed inside the ENCLOSURE of the Race Course during the Race Days WITHOUT TICKETS, which can be had on application to the Undersigned. These Tickets are only available for Servants while in attendance on their employers or when on duty at the various Stands.

Any Chinese found loitering about with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit them, and the holders thereof will be removed from the Enclosure.

T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [333]

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

RACE HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (TUESDAY) and TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), the 27th and 28th instants, at 11.45 a.m.

By Order,
A. E. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1917. [339]

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

RACE HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (TUESDAY) and TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), the 27th and 28th instants, at 11.45 a.m.

By Order,
A. E. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1917. [340]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

SPECIAL DINNERS will be served in the GRILL ROOM on the following

RACE DAYS—
TO-DAY (TUESDAY)

AND
TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY),

at \$3.50 per head.

ORCHESTRA in attendance.
Plan of tables at Hotel Office. [341]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE FINAL DIVIDEND DECLARED for the Year ending 31st December, 1916, at the rate of Two Pounds Three Shillings Sterling, together with a Bonus of Ten Shillings Sterling per Share, is payable on and after MONDAY, the 26th day of February, Current, at the Office of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STALEY,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1917. [337]

FRENCH LESSONS.

G. MOUSSON,
15, MORRISON HILL ROAD.

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET—FURNISHED.

NO. 3, GOUGH HILL (No. 102, Tan Pak), for 3 or 4 months, from 1st June, 1917.

Apply—
LINSTEAD & DAVIS.
[346]

TO LET—IMMEDIATELY.

LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and sub. exchange.

Apply—
"X. Y. Z."
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[332]

TO LET.

NO. 46, ELGIN STREET, 6 Room House From 1st April.

Apply to—
Dr. M. E. ASGER,
New Post Office Building.
[289]

TO LET.

2 NEW HOUSES now Building in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation on 1st February, 1917. For rent and other particulars apply to—

H. M. H. NEMAZEE,
1 Des Voeux Road.
[108]

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET.

Apply to—
PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING.
[102]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED, 3, Stewart Terrace.

Apply—
H. E. POLLOCK,
Princes' Buildings.
[97]

TO LET.

FLATS in "EWO MESS," No. 8, Tan Pak.

Apply, Property Office,
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
[90]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Apply to—
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., Ltd.
[72]

TO LET.

GODOWN in Duddell Street. Light and airy Offices overlooking Statue Square. Moderate rent.

For rent and other particulars apply to—
H.
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[88]

TO LET.

From 1st May.

Apply to—
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.
[69]

TO LET.

FOUR ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.
KOWLOON MARINE LOT 43 with wharf and 18,000 sq. ft. suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godown.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings.
[291]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and York Buildings. HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road. HOUSES in Broadwood and Morston Terrace. HOUSES on Shamone, Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., Ltd.
[25]

HOSIERY COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

WANTED—A Sole Agent for the sale of Auto-Knitters suitable for the above industries.

Full particulars can be obtained from
COX,
12 Nanking Road,
Shanghai.
[336]

WANTED.

ENGINEER, B. abtainer, for Harbour or Shop. Apply in own writing with copy res. stating age and salary required to
W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.,
Kowloon.
[106]

FOR SALE.

STANLEY GIBBONS SCOTT'S and YVERT ET TELLIER'S POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUES for 1917.

GRACA & CO.,
No. 4, WYNDHAM STREET,
Hongkong.

INTIMATION

WATSON'S
OLD BROWN
BRANDYE
QUALITY.

25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 618.

MARRIAGE.

TRAIN—CRAWFORD—At H.B.M. Consulate General, Shanghai, on February 20th, and afterwards at the Union Church, by Rev. C. E. Darwent, WILLIAM HENRY, youngest son of the late Mr. W. TRAIN and Mrs. TRAIN, of Windsor Villa, Millport, Scotland, to JEAN TYNE, second daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. HUGH CRAWFORD, of Sunnyvale, Large, Scotland.

DEATHS.

At No. 2 Thorne Road, Fatimah, Shanghai, on February 20th, the beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. AHMED, aged three years and five months.

Hewitt.—On the 26th inst., at Green Island, as the result of an accident, A. H. HEWITT, Superintending Engineer, Green Island Cement Co. [345]

Hongkong Office: 10, Des Voeux Road, R.O. London Office: 181, Fleet Street, R.O.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 27TH FEBRUARY, 1917.

THE SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

It would be idle to attempt to minimise the seriousness of the losses which enemy submarines—following their avowed policy of ruthless and indiscriminate destruction—are inflicting upon the World's mercantile marine. The Germans know full well that the ability of the Allies to wage war is mainly dependent upon the shipping at their disposal. Without the ships required to convey troops, munitions of war, raw materials and foodstuffs we should soon be helpless, and there is no doubt that the continued reduction of tonnage is increasing enormously the difficulties with which the military authorities have to contend and adding seriously to the burdens which the people at home are called upon to bear. The daily toll of ships sunk shows the success with which the German submarine campaign is meeting, but, although the situation already created may be "grave beyond words," there is so far little likelihood of our collapse through economic pressure. The best means to be adopted for destroying the submarines is a problem which must necessarily be left entirely to the naval experts, but it is satisfactory to

know that the Government, fully alive to the dangers of the menace, are taking firm measures to lessen its possible consequences. The general approval which has been accorded to Mr. Lloyd George's proposals in order that military operations shall not be hampered by any lack of ships simply shows once again that the people of Great Britain are ready to make any sacrifice in order to win the war. There never was, nor can there be in these circumstances, any doubt as to the ultimate issue. The enemy, it must be remembered, are doing their worst, and the probabilities are that instead of the losses of merchant ships continuing in an increasing ratio they will tend to decrease as more effective measures are gradually evolved for combatting the danger that threatens them. When a ship is lost, the news is immediately telegraphed to all parts of the world, but nothing is said about the submarines "which never return." Admiral VON CAPELLE recently told a private meeting of the Reichstag that the German Navy's expectations of ruthless submarine had been surpassed, and accused the British Press of concealing the extent of the sinkings. He spoke on February 21st, and said there was no reason to think that a single submarine had been lost since the beginning of the month. Against this statement we have Admiral JELlicoe's statement that he is satisfied with the results achieved by the British Navy in its warfare upon under-sea craft. The assurance is vague, but its vagueness is in accordance with the traditional policy of the "Silent Service." It is a moot point, however, whether the time has not arrived for some, at least, of this reserve to be abandoned. The policy of secrecy may be "most distasteful" to the enemy, but if we knew a little more definitely how many submarines were put out of action, it would certainly help to maintain public confidence. It would be encouraging, for example, to know that "the wastage" is in excess of the supply. It is patent from the comparatively small number of British steamers sunk that the measures taken to guard certain defined commercial routes are effective, but we are now almost as vitally interested in neutral shipping as in our own, and practically the only effective way of safeguarding our interests lies in the destruction of the enemy vessels. The arming of merchantmen will take time to complete and there are not wanting some amongst these entitled to express an authoritative opinion who argue that the comparative immunity which armed merchantmen undoubtedly enjoy does not furnish sufficient recompense for diverting the necessary labour and material from other directions in which they urge, it could be more profitably employed. To provide 16,000 suitable guns and something like 32,000 trained gunners is no light task in these days, and such are the numbers that would be needed to equip 4,000 merchantmen to depend entirely upon their own resources. The *Athos* one of the finest boats in the Messageries fleet, was torpedoed, despite the fact that she was escorted by two destroyers. The seven Dutch boats, which have been so wantonly sunk, would probably have reached their destination safely had they chosen to follow the advice of the British Admiralty instead of relying upon German guarantees. But, although the complete arming of all merchant vessels may not be immediately practicable, it is generally admitted that the policy of arming as many of them as possible is the right one to pursue in view of the fact that the necessity of frustrating the submarine campaign almost everywhere every other consideration at the present moment. With the gradual arming of the merchant fleet, with the Navy incessantly at work perfecting measures for destroying the enemy's powers for harm, and with the Government taking the necessary steps to replace inevitable losses, develop our Home resources, and lessen our dependence upon overseas supplies, we can look forward confidently to the future.

The matriculation, and senior and junior local examinations of the Hongkong University will commence on Monday, July 8th.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., will be held in the office of the General Managers, Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., on Friday, March 10th.

FATALITY AT GREEN ISLAND.

TRAGIC DEATH OF MR. A. H. HEWITT.

The death occurred at Green Island yesterday afternoon, under sudden and tragic circumstances, of Mr. A. H. Hewitt, superintending engineer of the Green Island Cement Company. About 3 p.m., the late Mr. Hewitt, while following his employment, slipped and fell off a plank to the ground below, a distance of about ten feet. He did not rise, and an examination showed that the deceased had sustained some severe internal injury. Medical aid was at once secured, but death took place about half an hour after the accident.

The late Mr. Hewitt, who was unmarried, was about 50 years of age, and had been in the employ of the Green Island Cement Company for the past 30 years, entering the Company as chief engineer.

He was an Inspector in the Police Reserve, and was highly respected and esteemed by a large circle of friends, to whom the news of his death under such sudden circumstances has come as a great shock.

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THE WAR.

BRITISH PROGRESS.

SUCCESSFUL RAIDING.

DESTRUCTION OF DUTCH SHIPPING: "EXPLANATION."

INDIA'S DEEP LOYALTY.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH ADVANCING.

ENEMY YIELDING GROUND WITH LITTLE OPPOSITION.

LONDON, February 25th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: "The enemy has continued to yield ground along the Ancre, and small bodies of our troops have advanced on a wide front, and occupied Serre and other important points to the east, meeting with little opposition."

We successfully raided to the east of Vierstraat on a 500 yards front, inflicting casualties, and taking 45 prisoners.

We made a raid to the east of Armentieres, and drove out raiders who reached our trenches to the north east of Ypres.

There has been considerable artillery work astride the Somme.

OVER THE PARAPET.

GERMANY'S LANK AND FLEET NOT DEPENDABLE.

LONDON, February 25th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, contrasting the success of the British raids with the failure of the German attempts south of Armentieres, and near the Ploegsteert Wood, mentioned on the 23rd inst., says the fact that the enemy are now employing his storming troops for raiding suggests that he is no longer able to count upon his regular rank and file going over the parapet at all. The storming troops consist of picked men specially trained for assault operations, who, according to the German army regulations, are only to be employed on important offensive tactics.

SUCCESSFUL FRENCH RAIDS.

Paris, February 25th.

A communiqué states:—There were two successful raids on enemy positions in the forest of Apremont, north of Badonvillers.

A French air squadron effectively bombed railway stations, at Grandpre, Romagnies and Mont Faucon.

GERMAN WIRELESS.

LONDON, February 25th.

A wireless German official message states:—We repulsed several local British attacks southward of Ypres, between Armentieres and Arras.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH RAIDS.

DECLINE IN GERMAN MORALE.

LONDON, February 25th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters says:—From January 1st to February 10th we took 1,800 prisoners in raids. The decline in the German morale is accentuated by the difficulties of supplying the men with rations, owing to the heaviness and precision of our fire.

FRENCH FRONT QUIET.

LONDON, February 25th.

A French communiqué reports the customary cannonade on the whole front. There has been no infantry action, except two fruitless enemy attempts at Violu, in Alsace.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ITALIANS REPULSE ATTACKS.

ROME, February 25th.

An official message states:—We repulsed attacks on the Asiago Plateau, at Palgrando, and in the upper part of Pontebrenna Valley.

The Near East.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

MESOPOTAMIA SUCCESSES.

THE TIGRIS CROSSED.

LONDON, February 25th.

A Mesopotamian official message states:—The southern portion of the Sannaiyat position which was captured on Thursday consisted of two lines with a frontage of 450 yards and a depth of 100 yards. Six counter-attacks failed.

Our assault on Thursday afternoon resulted in the capture of two lines on a 900 yards front.

At day-break on Friday we crossed the Tigris in the neighbourhood of the Shumran bend, our covering parties established on the left bank taking prisoners. Within nine hours we had completed a bridge and consolidated our position despite stubborn resistance. Simultaneously, we resumed the assault on Sannaiyat, and captured the third and fourth lines on a 1,050 yards front.

In the Shumran area on Friday we took 544 prisoners.

ROYAL CONGRATULATIONS.

LONDON, February 25th.

The King has sent a message to General Maude, as follows:—"I congratulate you on your recent Mesopotamia success, and am confident that you will not spare any effort to achieve further success. It is gratifying to know that the communication difficulties have been overcome."

General.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE RESTRICTION OF IMPORTS.

MORE PROHIBITED ARTICLES.

LONDON, February 24th.

The list of prohibited imports in a proclamation in the Gazette includes the following:—Antimony ware, curios, embroidery, artificial flowers, hides, raw jute, matings, quebracho, hemlock, and mangrove extracts, silks (not including yarns), soya beans, straw-plaitings, plated and gilt vases, glass, perfumery and cotton hosiery. The prohibition does not apply to goods imported under Board of Trade licences.

NEWSPAPERS INCLUDED.

LONDON, February 24th.

Articles, the importation of which is prohibited, include printed matter, including daily, weekly and other periodicals, except single copies posted.

SIZE MAY BE REDUCED.

LONDON, February 25th.

It is stated that the Government contemplates enforcing a reduction in the size of newspapers. Half-penny illustrated newspapers announce that they are doubling their price.

THE PRICE OF TEA.

UNPATRIOTIC PROFITEERS.

LONDON, February 24th.

It is anticipated that an official list of maximum prices for tea will shortly be issued, as there is reason to believe that some dealers have unjustifiably advanced the wholesale price.

CEYLON TEA TO BE RESTRICTED.

LONDON, February 24th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Walter Long said there would be a reduction in imports of Ceylon tea. Nobody regretted that more than he did.

LONDON, February 25th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George announced that the importation of tea would be reduced to a certain extent and that foreign tea would be prohibited.

BRITISH FOOD RESTRICTIONS.

WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT BY THE PRESS.

LONDON, February 24th.

The papers wholeheartedly support Mr. Lloyd George's restrictions, though they are much more drastic than anticipated. The consensus of opinion is that the public will respond to the demand for strong measures to win the war, and that the restrictions will be accepted most cheerfully.

A general rise in prices is expected. Beer will probably be a shilling a pint ere long. The chief surprise is the prohibition of apples and tomatoes, which are largely consumed by the poor. It is suggested that many stocks, especially of cocoa, coffee and tea, which are largely held by foreigners for continental account, should be commandeered.

Mr. Lloyd George's speech will undoubtedly promote the food economy campaign, which is spreading among all classes.

PERSIAN CAMPAIGN.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

LONDON, February 23rd.

According to a message to the Times from Bunder Abbas, Sir Percy Sykes' column went from Kerman to Yazd, Isfahan and Shiraz. Its arrival at Isfahan relieved the population of the fear of an attack by robber tribes.

Sir Percy Sykes opened up the Shiraz road after a brisk encounter with brigands, enabling 12,000 loads of merchandise to be taken to Isfahan en route, and from thence to Shiraz, which was reached in the middle of November. Sir Percy Sykes made a forced march and surrounded a village in which a robber band was captured.

Sir Percy Sykes and the Governor-General of Fars had a great reception at Shiraz. Those who had benefited by the lawlessness are hostile, but they are incapable of much harm. Sir Percy took over the Fars Gendarmerie on the day after his arrival, and explained matters to the officers, who were likewise relieved that the arm of central authority at Teheran had at length reached so far.

One of the most important tasks of Sir Percy Sykes during his stay at Shiraz has been the opening up of the Bushire road, enabling a revival of trade with the Persian Gulf, while the presence of the column has had a most favourable effect throughout the Province of Fars.

RUSSIAN POLITICS.

APPREHENDED DEMONSTRATION BY LABOURITES.

LONDON, February 25th.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the re-opening of the Duma on the 27th inst. is awaited apprehensively, owing to efforts to induce workmen to strike and to march to the Duma.

General Khabaloff, in the course of a Proclamation, reminds the workmen of the existence of martial law, and says that any violence will be forcibly repressed.

M. Miliukoff, the Democratic leader, appeals to the workmen not to play into the hands of the enemy, and to refrain from demonstrating.

SPECULATION IN FOODSTUFFS.

NOT TO BE TOLERATED.

LONDON, February 25th.

According to a Press Bureau announcement, Lord Devonport notifies that speculative buying and cornering of foodstuffs with a view to raising prices will not be tolerated.

CROWN COLONIES.

MR. WALTER LONG'S TRIBUTE.

LONDON, February 24th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Walter Long paid a warm tribute to the self-sacrifice, extreme generosity and good will displayed by the Crown Colonies and Dominions. He was confident that so long as they were satisfied that proposals were made from the most profound sense of duty they would be prepared to bear their share of the burden along with us.

INDIA'S LOYALTY.

A REMARKABLE INTERVIEW.

LONDON, February 25th.

The Maharaja of Bikanir, interviewed by a special correspondent of the Associated Press, in India, declared that India was unqualifiedly loyal to the core. He affirmed with the utmost earnestness that he loved the King-Emperor, as the representative of sovereign power, and as a man. There was no sacrifice that the King-Emperor could ask that he would not make. His brother rulers also loved the King-Emperor and would follow where he led, through thick and thin. The Indian Princes' loyalty was unselfish. They had offered assistance through the dark days when the Germans were sweeping all before them. The Princes and people of India stood by the King-Emperor when India was denuded of British troops. He recalled the loyalty of the Indian Princes during the mutiny at the time of the Landen scare, during troubles on the frontier in 1870, and in China in 1900, and also in the maintenance of the Imperial Service Troops. The absolute loyalty of India was based not only on religion and tradition, but also on the fact that His Majesty was personally known to the people and was most popular throughout India, as a great and just sovereign to whom the Indians were drawn by his personal magnetism. While there had been in some cases petty annoyances by minor officials, the policy of the Raj towards the Indian States had been sympathetic, displaying a sincere desire to eliminate all uncalculated interference in internal affairs. This attitude of the Raj had certainly drawn the Indian States steadily closer to itself and had stimulated the rulers to a real devotion to the King-Emperor and his Royal House. The just and sympathetic policy of the Raj during the Viceroynalties of Lord Minto and Lord Hardinge had prevented an increase in secession. While the handling of affairs between the Raj and the Indian States remained in the capable hands of such political officers and sympathetic friends as Mr. J. B. Wood, and Colonel Windham, the future was most hopeful.

The Maharaja continued to say that the Princes desired to retain their part in the Empire, for there was no Government so great and good as His Majesty's. They wanted to stay and help in the achievement of even greater things than they had accomplished in the past. They hoped that, before long, the rulers would be given seats in an assembly, such as a Council of Princes, which would have a voice in the government of India in matters relating to Indian States. They looked forward also to the time when the people of British India would be prepared themselves to take a hand in the affairs of the State. There was every indication that the Raj had no greater desire than to see the Princes and people stand on their own feet under the guidance of Britain. He realised that the political progress of India must be comparatively slow to be healthy, but he believed that the Raj would do all it could to meet her aspirations for advancement, and the Princes asked nothing better than to be allowed to work hand in hand with the Raj towards that goal.

AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT.

LABOUR OPPOSITION TO PROLONGATION.

MELBOURNE, February 25th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne, the Labour Party has decided to oppose Mr. Hughes' motion for the prolongation of Parliament for six months, on the ground that it involves imperial interference.

MORE MEN FROM DOMINIONS.

MELBOURNE, February 25th.

Speaking in the House of Representatives, Mr. Hughes declared that the need for men was now greater than it was in October. All Dominions have been asked to send more.

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES.

THE KING ON ITS SCOPE AND IMPORTANCE.

LONDON, February 23rd.

In opening the School of Oriental Students, His Majesty the King emphasised the wide scope and vast importance of its work, affording fresh opportunities for study to those services which have been pioneers in progress and instruments of good government in India and Egypt, and furnishing with fuller technical equipment, pioneers in commerce and industry, who in each successive generation undertook the duty of upholding the honour and fame of British trade in the East. Its work would also serve to develop the existing sympathy between Britons and Japanese. If the School happily succeeded in imparting to the pupils sent out as teachers of unselfish government and civilised commerce a clearer comprehension of the thoughts and lives of the diverse races of the East, the good effects thereof would extend far beyond its immediate tangible results. The ancient literature and art of India were of unique interest in the intellectual tradition of India and to promote and assist the labours of students in these departments of knowledge, to the mutual advantage of both countries.

The School was about to open its doors in the midst of an unparalleled crisis in the world's history. For more than two years, the peoples of His Majesty's Dominions had loyally and devotedly vied with each other in offering their blood and treasure for the prosecution of a righteous war. (Cheers.) A sense of common sacrifice and endeavour had drawn us all nearer one another in feeling and sympathy. Meanwhile, the peaceful labours of the School were spreading accurate scientific knowledge of Eastern life, and he thought it would foster a spirit of loyalty and patriotism and knit together still closer the many nations of the Empire.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN SITUATION.

CALL FOR USE OF U.S. ARMED FORCES.

WASHINGTON, February 25th.

The Senate has adopted a Republican resolution authorising President Wilson to use the armed forces of the United States in order to protect the commerce, property and lives of Americans.

GERMAN AIRSHIP OVER HOLLAND.

DUTCH PROTEST.

THE HAGUE, February 25th.

The Dutch Minister in Berlin has protested against a German airship flying over Holland on the 17th inst.

MARKET.

SILVER.

LONDON, February 24th.

Silver is quoted at 37½; quieter.

LONDON, February 25th.

Silver is quoted at 37½. There is a little more demand. The market is steady.

LINSEED AND RUBBER.

LONDON, February 24th.

Linseed is quoted at 114, nearest value, and rubber at 38½ sellers.

OBITUARY.

DR. JOHN FLEET.

LONDON, February 24th.

The death is announced of Dr. John Fleet, author and antiquary.

THE SLAVE RAIDERS.

PROTESTS IN AMERICA.

Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore have followed the example of New York in holding mass meetings to denounce the forced deportation of Belgians to Germany. Other meetings will follow in all parts of the country, and undoubtedly public opinion will be aroused to the extent of demanding that Germany shall cease to practise slavery on victims of the war. Much will be accomplished, it is believed, in this regard, by the moving appeal addressed by 500,000 Belgian working-men to their American brethren. President Wilson has expressed his abhorrence of the outrage committed, and, through Mr. Gerard, has made known America's remonstrance to the German Government.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

SUPER-FRIGHTFULNESS.

THE RECENT SINKINGS.

LONDON, February 23rd.

The sinkings reported yesterday totalled over 15,000 tons.

One European and three Chinese of the crew of the *Perseus* are missing.

It is reported that the Americans aboard the *Skogland* were saved.

FOUR DUTCH BOATS POSSIBLY SAFE.

LONDON, February 24th.

Lloyds announces that the *Menado* has safely reached harbour, and the *Bandong*, *Kemlung* and *Zaan Dijk* are possibly still afloat.

ADDITIONAL SINKINGS.

LONDON, February 24th.

The latest sinkings include the steamers *Belgur* and *Walshfield*, the barque *Invercauld* and two smacks, all British. The total tonnage is 9,000.

FRUITS OF DUTCH COMPLACENCY.

LONDON, February 25th.

Reuter confirms the statement that no enquiries were made from the Admiralty regarding the routes of the torpedoed Dutch ships, which arrived at Falmouth on various dates and were released at the special request of the Dutch Government.

An official of the Dutch Legation visited Falmouth and interviewed the Captains privately, giving them special instructions. The ships sailed with the usual navigation lights and other illuminations, but they were torpedoed shortly afterwards. The act is regarded as a result of Dutch complacency concerning the German decrees.

There is a strong feeling in shipping circles that the repeated Dutch concessions to German bullying are a poor return for British consideration towards Dutch Home and Colonial interests. It is pointed out that if the Dutch ships followed British regulations, they would doubtless have arrived safely, like the overwhelming majority of British vessels.

AN EXTRAORDINARY EXPLANATION.

LONDON, February 25th.

According to a message from The Hague, the German Legation, in the course of an extraordinary explanation of the torpedoing of Dutch steamers, says the date for the safe homcoming of Dutch vessels, originally fixed for February 25th, was postponed to the 9th and then to the 11th. In view of the situation in Holland, finally Dutch shipowners were informed that their vessels could leave in a group on the 22nd inst. or on March 17th, but the safety guaranteed for the 22nd was only comparative, whereas that for March 17th was absolutely safe. The torpedoing, says the Legation, is regrettable, but Dutch shipowners are responsible because they sailed on February 22nd.

BRAZILIAN STEAMERS.

HAVER, February 25th.

Two Brazilian steamers arrived at Cape Verde on January 31st and left on the 4th inst.

SHANGHAI COUNTRY CLUB.

FORTY MEMBERS NOW ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

At the meeting of the Country Club on February 20th at the Club House, the Chairman, Mr. C. W. Wrightson, said that it was a matter for congratulation that the Country Club was now a members' club in the full sense of the term and relieved of the practice, he hoped for good and all of all enemies. He added that at the annual meeting on February 10th, 1916, it was recorded that nine of their members had lost their lives on the battlefield. He regretted to say that three more of their members had been killed and as a tribute of respect and their deep sense of obligation to them he would place their names on record:—Captain E. R. Jackson, 1st Battalion, Gloucestershire Guards; Capt. W. E. B. Royal Field Artillery and Lieut. H. W. D. Stone, Connaught Rangers, making in all 12 members of their club who had made the great sacrifice.

It would interest them to learn that they had at present 40 members engaged on active service and though the goal might still be far they hoped it would be at no very distant date when they would be able to welcome them back and express their heartfelt gratitude for their splendid efforts in having successfully crushed the enemy of the whole civilised world.

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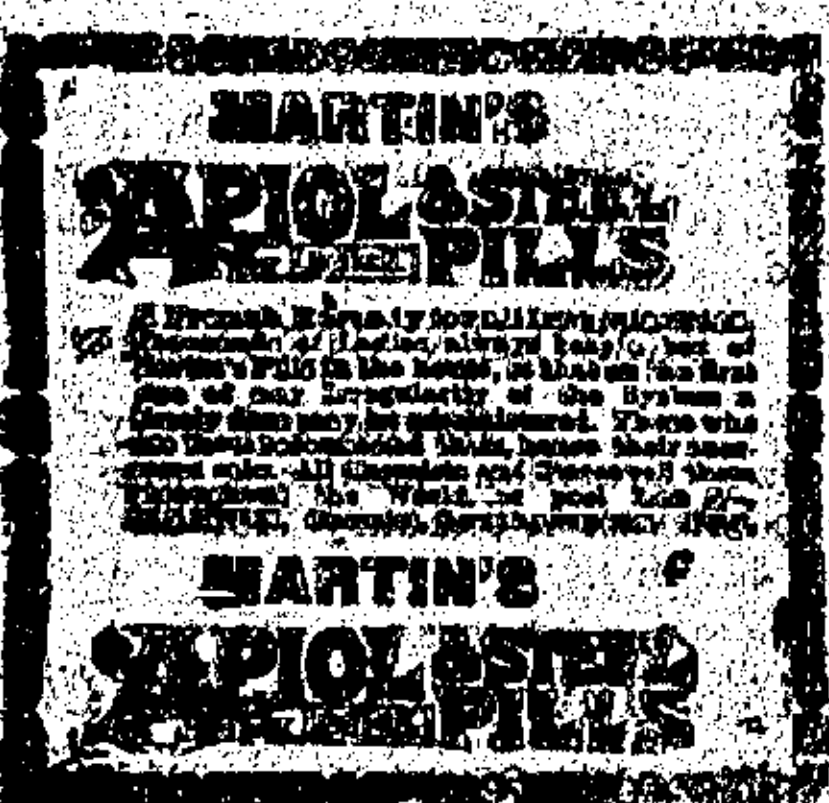
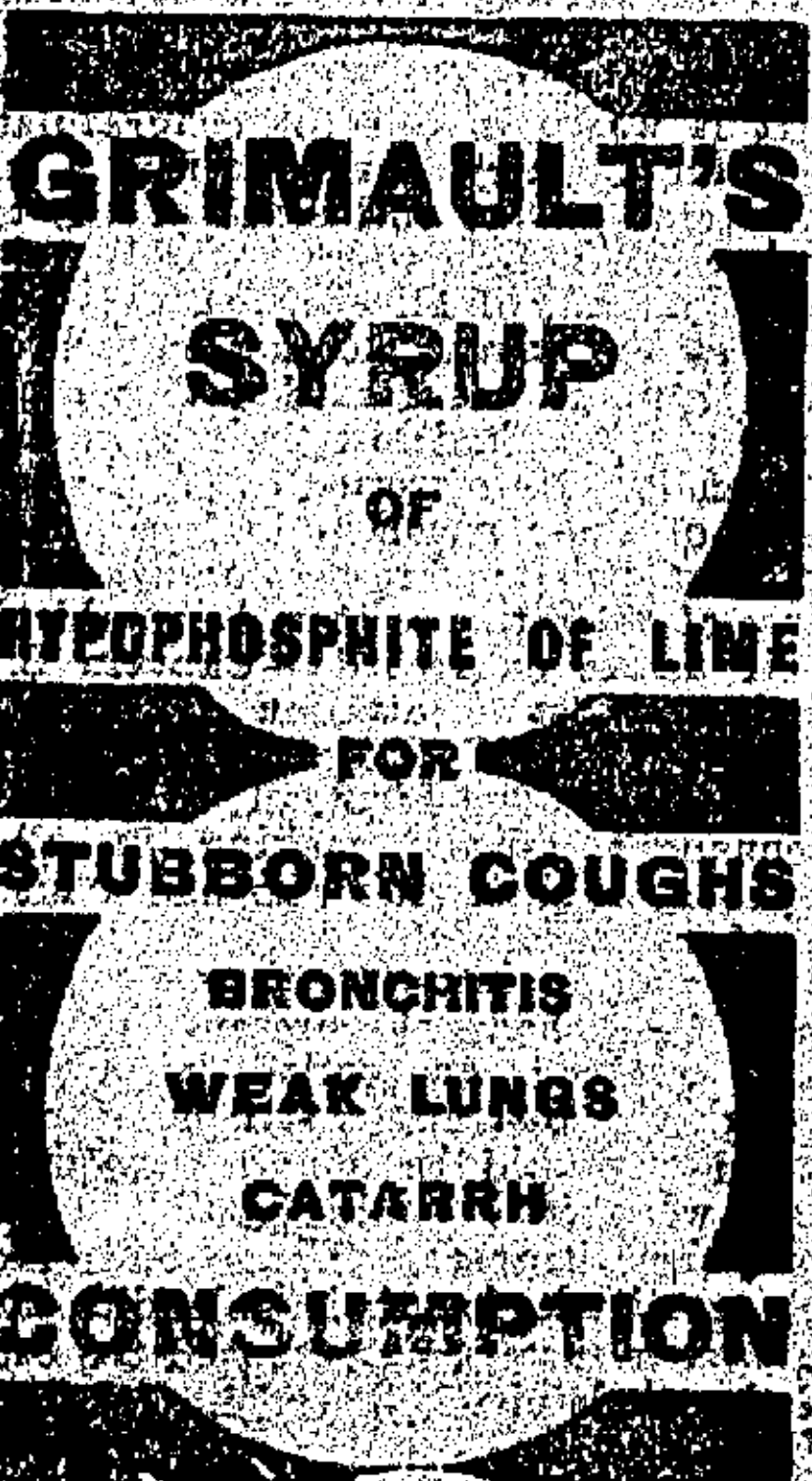
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THE RAID ON THE "FIELD."

SIR THEODORE COOK ON A
NEW EXPLOSIVE.

THE NEWSPAPER NOT CONCERNED.

Sir Theodore A. Cook, the Editor of *The Field*, whose private room was recently raided by the War Office, gives the following account of the incident to *The Times*—

Sir, The announcement in your columns yesterday needs an immediate explanation, which I am sure you will allow me to give your readers at once. That the War Office should have mixed up the *Field* Office with the private concerns of its editor, and should have attempted by such unworthy means to extort information, always freely at their disposal, is a monstrous injustice both to myself and to the paper.

The questions asked me indicated very clearly that the raid was connected with a matter of munitions within my personal knowledge, and I therefore trust you will permit me the privilege of recording in your columns a story which is, it seems to me, not only of vital importance to the effective conduct of the war by ourselves and our Allies, but also of direct interest to the even wider question of the liberty of the subject and the scope of the Defence of the Realm Act.

The question centres on a newly-discovered material which, in one form, is a powerful high explosive and, in another, as a propellant which has been tested by at least one of our Allies, and proved to be of the highest practical value. It was invented by a neutral, as soon as I was aware of the circumstances, I determined to save the powder for this country and our Allies, and after informing the Prime Minister of the facts, early in June, 1916, I bought the neutral out, and formed a new syndicate which owned the whole rights and patents. Of this syndicate I became chairman.

Some time before this Lord Moulton had not only refused the material on behalf of the British Government, but had refused to safeguard the patent specification, which was only protected from the knowledge of our enemies by the intervention of the Admiralty expert. Lord Moulton also asserted at a later date, that the material successfully tested by one of our Allies was not the material he had rejected, and was not covered by the patent to which I have referred. On these matters I need not now comment; but the original refusal clearly left the owners free to offer their material to our Allies abroad, especially as the report of the French official chemists had been of an extremely favourable nature. As chairman of the syndicate of owners, I therefore applied (on July 14th) for a licence to trade and correspond to M.L.D. (the War Office), the Department which issues these licences. The material had been granted a licence to manufacture in this country many months previously by the Home Office, and the syndicate signed an agreement for the purchase of a suitable factory in the North of England. In granting these licences "M.L.D." consult with another body called the Commission Internationale de Ravitaillement (known as "C.I.R.") in India House, which is worked by an officer, whom I will call X. I held Captain X's letter to the effect that there were no objections to the licence, under proper conditions; and as the only other question was that of raw materials (which are, of course, pooled between the Allies as far as possible), I felt equally safe because the inventory had accepted certain stringent conditions in this regard, laid down by the officials of the Government concerned, who must naturally have been acting in full accord with our own. On July 21st the syndicate was refused a licence without reason given; but a previous conversation between me and Lieutenant Y, in "M.L.D.", the War Office, had made it clear that this officer had determined never to grant a licence under any circumstances; and he never has.

The full story of the opposition to Lieutenant Y and Captain X, from this date onwards, culminating in the recent attack, has been placed before the Minister of War and the Minister of Munitions, and must eventually be made public. It is sufficient here to say that the attitude taken up by the officials is that the syndicate is trying to force it upon Governments which do not want it. The licence has been continuously refused because it is alleged our Allies do not require the material. When the syndicate endeavours to produce evidence from abroad, their cables and letters are sequestered, and they are charged with corresponding without a licence. The position had become intolerable towards the end of last year, when an appeal, setting forth the facts, was addressed to the late Prime Minister. But the political crisis inevitably postponed the whole matter. For the same reason questions in the House of Commons had to be postponed until next Session after they had been put down. When the new Ministers took office, Lieutenant Y and Captain X laid their own version of the case before them, and, taking advantage of the fact that the House is not sitting, they have now proceeded to acts of violence and repression which they seek to justify under the Defence of the Realm Act.

The latest incidents in this extraordinary story are the following:—When the inventor last went to Paris he was requested to take with him the bust of Edith Cavell, which had been generously presented to the French hospital by Sir George Thompson. He carried with him a letter to that effect from the French Embassy, countersigned by our own Foreign Office, and he was accompanied by the private secretary of a distinguished French Deputy. By the orders of "M.L.D. the War Office," they were stopped at Southampton, stripped, and

subjected to serious personal indignity for some hours. The bust was unpacked and microscopically examined. This outrage decided the owning syndicate to transfer the whole of their activities to France, to form a new French syndicate to which all rights should be transferred; and to manufacture abroad, where every facility was promised them for making a material of which several of our Allies stood immediately in need. A personal consultation between the respective directors was naturally necessary. Two of the English directors well above military age, and of unblemished reputation, were refused passports, so it became necessary for the inventor to come to England himself. Very few people (and quite rightly) are allowed to travel now, and every traveller is asked to do small commissions for others. In this case the French War Office of the British War Office had expressed a desire to see the D. shield, a French invention for protecting infantry. M. D. himself asked Mr. B. (inventor of the powder here described and managing director of my English syndicate, who also acts as consulting chemist in M. D.'s works in France) to take over a shield for the purposes required. Mr. B. consented, and carried with him both the shield and the British Trench Warfare Department and the letter from the Aeronautical Department of the French Government stating his mission and emphasizing the necessity of his immediate return. Our War Office kept Mr. B. hard at work till they had satisfied themselves as to all they required, and then Mr. B. set about his return to Paris.

The French Passport Office in London had voided his passport, when the vice was annulled by the order of "M.L.D. the War Office." I took the passport to the War Office and asked the reason for this action. I was taken to the head of the Intelligence Department, with whom I had two conversations on Monday, Jan. 15th, and at the end the General informed Mr. B. in person that the Public Prosecutor was being consulted as to the arrest of Mr. B. (and no doubt others) under the Defence of the Realm Act. My syndicate at once made every preparation to lay the whole facts before the Solicitor to the Treasury. But the Intelligence Department immediately proceeded to the most violent extremes. The syndicate's office in Pall-mall, Mr. B.'s private residence, and his clerks were raided by officers from the War Office and plain clothes detectives from Scotland Yard, who took away all they wanted and examined all present. The next day the solicitor to the syndicate was treated in an even more shameful manner. He has lost his eldest and youngest sons in warfare. His other son is also a Volunteer in the Army, and he was away from London on the business of this last son, when in his absence, Lieut. Y, with the usual detectives, raided his office and took away all the correspondence relative to the syndicate, retaining next day with a major of the General Staff in addition to question the solicitor, when, Lieut. Y, carried away in triumph all the documents and titles from the safe and took from the bookshelves a marked copy of the Defence of the Realm Act which was in the solicitor's office. I may add that since Lord Moulton's private secretary had previously warned one of the syndicate's shareholders to have nothing to do with the business, the syndicate's solicitors had drafted a letter to the Solicitor to the Treasury, and all the syndicate's correspondence was ready for reference when they were raided. After this a similar visit was made to my room in the office of the *Field* newspaper on Monday, the 15th inst., and I was cross-examined.

Many comments might be made on these high-handed proceedings; I confine myself to the facts that I have kept the authorities informed very fully, ever since June, 1916, of every detail in connection with the syndicate. The syndicate has long desired that every fact should be known. It has nothing to conceal. It is now determined that the true reason underlying the action of the officials shall at long last be brought to light; and that it will leave no stone unturned to assist the return of Mr. B. to his domestic and work in France. If there was any objection on the part of British officials either to the powder or to any of its owners, that objection could have been stated in June, 1916. The officials concerned preferred a secret persecution which has taken up their time for months, and finally culminated in the episode I have described. During the whole of this period, no one in authority seems to have thought it worth while to decide, immediately and finally, whether they were justified in depriving this country and our Allies of a material proved to be valuable in time of war, or whether it was advisable to suppress a useful industry in this country in time of peace. All such domestic questions, however, the British authorities have a perfect right to settle as they please. The extraordinary feature of the present case is their apparent determination to prevent the use of this material in any other country as soon as they realized the success of the Field Artillery Trials in France. I have at once protested against the course taken by these officers both to the Prime Minister and to the Minister for War. M. D. is on his way here from France to demand further explanations from them. I confidently await the result of the public inquiry now inevitable. If public inquiry is refused, I am ready to publish the facts. It is clear that the powder is useless, as public trial and the opinions of the French Government chemist. If it is said that one of our Allies wants the powder, the public shall read the official letters of one of our Allies, first asking to try the powder and next thanking the inventor for the successful results obtained.

Both Lieutenants Y and Captain X have repeatedly suggested to the inventor and the owners that they should "carry on their business in France." Apparently, it is because the syndicate has followed these suggestions that it is now being attacked under the Defence of the Realm Act.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

SIX MONTHS' WORK IN EAST AFRICA.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. SMUTS.

A dispatch from General Smuts covering military operations in East Africa for the period March 21st to October 27th, 1916, was published on January 17th in a Supplement to the *London Gazette*. It gives the story of the campaign from the conquest of the Kilimanjaro-Arusha area to the time when the German forces were driven south of the Central Railway.

General Smuts explains that after the Kilimanjaro operations he reorganized his forces, which were formed into three divisions. The First Division, under Major-General A. R. Hoskins, included the Indian and other British forces in East Africa; the Second and Third Divisions were formed of troops from South Africa, the second being under Major-General Van Deventer and the third under Major-General C. O. B. Smith. The Second South African Brigade did not, however, reach East Africa, and was not ready to take the field until the latter half of June.

After considering the alternatives of (1) an advance from the coast along the existing railways; (2) an advance on Tabora by Victoria Nyanza; (3) striking at the main enemy force in the Pare and Usambara mountains; and (4) an advance from Arusha into the interior towards the Central Railway, General Smuts decided to take the last-named course. "The enemy had made the mistake of retiring south along the Tanga railway with practically his entire fighting force, and the door of the interior stood wide open and unguarded." Accordingly, the Second Division under General Van Deventer was sent south from Arusha; the other divisions being kept meantime in "rain-quarters" facing the enemy concentration south of the river Ruwii (the upper Pangani).

VAN DEVENTER'S MARCH TO KONDIA IRANGI. Van Deventer's advance began on April 3rd, when three regiments of S.A. Horse moved over the Masai Steppe and at day-break on April 6th captured a hill post covering the only watering-place in the vicinity. Their horses had been without water since noon on the 3rd. On April 10th the important post of Kondia Irangi was occupied. After this occupation General Van Deventer reported that he had lost hundreds of animals from horse sickness during his advance of some 500 miles from Mochi in the last four weeks and his troops were worn out with ceaseless marching and fighting. General Smuts therefore decided that the Second Division should concentrate at Kondia Irangi. "The expedition, conducted by Van Deventer with his usual dash and resourcefulness, had secured important results at trifling cost." The high, fertile plateau connecting Kondia Irangi with the Central Railway, and dominating strategic points for any further advance had been secured. But the rainy season in the area between Tabora (Kilimanjaro) and Kondia Irangi had broken, and Van Deventer's Division was cut off. It managed to live on local supplies or supplies brought from a distance of 120 miles, but the strain and privation were reflected in the health of the troops.

Meanwhile the enemy had realized the "treacherous" threat which Van Deventer's advance was to his whole scheme of defence, and the rainy season had brought that advance to a standstill. The enemy was able to transfer a great part of his force from Usambara. He concentrated some 4,000 men against the Second Division, which was so weakened by sickness and unavoidable detachments that it could barely dispose of 3,000 rifles in its isolated position. This led the enemy to take the offensive in the early days of May. On May 9th at 7.30 a.m. began an attack which lasted nearly eight hours. It was pressed with determination, the enemy making four separate assaults, and in some places repeatedly charged up to the positions held by Van Deventer's men. The brunt of the attack fell on the 11th S.A. Infantry, supported by the 12th S.A. Infantry. At 3.15 a.m. on the 10th the enemy withdrew. He had had about 25 companies engaged under the personal command of Colonel von Lettow-Vorbeck, the German Commander-in-Chief. "With this defeat the enemy's last hope of successful resistance to any large portion of our forces was extinguished." General Van Deventer was, however, unable to assume the offensive on any large scale owing to his weakness in horseflesh, the heavy rate of sickness among his men, and the great difficulties of supply.

GEN. SMUTS MAIN ADVANCE.

Towards the end of the second week in May the rains abated and General Smuts renewed operations with his two other divisions. His first task being to clear the Pare and Usambara mountains, and thence to swing south at a point opposite Handeni and move parallel to Van Deventer. The character of the country made the advance difficult. Pare and Usambara were "huge blocks of mountains" with precipitous southern slopes, at the foot of which runs the Tanga Railway. Thence dense bush extended 15 to 20 miles to the Pangani—an impassable river. The enemy expected General Smuts to advance along the railway and had prepared strong defences. But the advance was along the left bank of the Pangani, and (with a small column) through the mountains on the north, while another small column followed the railway line. In this manner, with flanks well forward, the enemy were manoeuvred out of strong positions. The advance on Usambara began on May 19th; by May 29th it was clear that the enemy intended to retire.

(Continued on next Column.)

Act, after having been effectively stifled in England. But that an attempt should be made to terrorize one of the owners of the powder by using the fact that he is editor of a paper which has nothing to do with this powder controversy at all, this, I think, is an outrage which will be resented far more widely than in the office of the paper concerned.

to Handeni and the Central Railway. General Smuts therefore crossed the right bank of the Pangani with his main column, leaving Brigadier-General Hannington and the 2nd East Africa Brigade (part of the First Division) to clear out Usambara. Hannington occupied Wilhelmsdorf on June 12th, and advanced to Korogwe on June 15th, whence he was directed to rejoin the First Division.

General Sheppard, with the 1st East African Brigade, captured Handeni on June 20th, and on June 24th General Hoskins, commanding the First Division, engaged the enemy on three sides. In the fight the 25th Royal Fusiliers and a composite battalion of Kashmir Imperial Service Infantry specially distinguished themselves. Only the dense bush enabled the enemy force to escape complete capture. General Smuts had now reached the eastern slopes of the Nguru hills, and before him was the enemy in force.

General Smuts' troops needed rest and reorganization. Between May 22nd and June 24th they had marched over 220 miles in most difficult country—there was shortage of water and serious difficulties of supply and transport, while several units were reduced by ravages of malaria to 30 per cent of their original effectives. General Smuts therefore formed a large standing camp in which to rest and refit his troops. The period of waiting was employed in the occupation of the coast area from Tanga to Bagamoyo, and the final clearing of the enemy from eastern Usambara. In these operations General Edwards, Inspector-General of Communications, and Colonel C. A. Price rendered good service, while naval forces co-operated. Tanga was occupied on July 7th by a simultaneous land and sea attack. Barambo was taken by the Navy on August 16th with a 4-in. naval gun in "good order" with ammunition. The land force which had been acting in the same district was then ordered to co-operate in a movement against Dar-es-Salaam.

ANGLO-BELGIAN THRUST IN THE LAKE DISTRICT.

While the operations described were in progress, other operations had taken place in the Victoria Nyanza region and on the Belgian Congo border. Here General Smuts' chief concern was to facilitate the advance of Major-General Tombour's Belgian forces. A base at Bukakata, on the west shore of Victoria Nyanza, was established, and from this base General Smuts made himself responsible for transport and supply of the Belgian troops. Sir Charles Crewe, of the Headquarters Staff, was sent to the lake area to keep in touch with General Tombour. Difficulties having been overcome, the Belgian advance began in April under Colonel Molitor, and Kigali, the capital of the rich German province of Ruanda, was occupied on May 6th.

British troops moved in conjunction with the Belgian advance, and on June 9th the Belgians, the largest of Victoria Nyanza, were successfully captured by Lieut. Colonel D. R. A. de la Motte, and Sir Charles Crewe, of the Headquarters Staff, was sent to the lake area to keep in touch with General Tombour. Difficulties having been overcome, the Belgian advance began in April under Colonel Molitor, and Kigali, the capital of the rich German province of Ruanda, was occupied on May 6th.

VAN DEVENTER REACHES THE CENTRAL RAILWAY.

General Van Deventer resumed the offensive on June 24th, the same day that the First and Third Divisions had come to a halt at the foot of the Nguru mountains. A considerable transference of enemy forces from the Kondia to the Nguru front was in progress. Van Deventer's attack on June 24th was successful, and by the end of July 100 miles of the Central Railway, from Kilimanjaro to Dodoma, was in his possession. General Van Deventer proceeded east along the line of the railway. General Smuts' intention being that he should get into closer co-operation with the force at Nguru in dealing with the main enemy force as they fell back to the Central Railway. By the first week in August the time had come for the First and Third Divisions to resume their advance. Apart from Van Deventer's movement eastwards, a Belgian force had crossed Tanganyika and had occupied Ujiji, and in the south-east General Northery had occupied Tabora, a week after a brilliant little action, and was prepared to move towards Iringa, 70 miles further north-east.

More difficult country for operations than the Nguru Mountains could hardly be found. The enemy had skillfully disposed about 2,000 rifles, with much heavy and light artillery, in the mountains and along the main road. Wide turning movements were therefore adopted in which the Brigades of General Sheppard, Hannington, Ensin, and others took part. Ensin found that the route he was following was entirely impracticable for wheeled traffic of any description; one of his mounted regiments lost its way in the mountains. With the balance of his Brigade Ensin barred the road by which the enemy sought to retire, but found it impossible to hold his position. Eventually the enemy was driven from the mountain, and on August 12th the crossing of the Wami River at Dakawa was captured by troops of General Sheppard and Ensin, acting on either side of the stream. Our losses in this action amounted to 120; the enemy had been very severely handled. While the First and Third Divisions were thus engaged the Second Division, under General Van Deventer, was making progress along the railway, and on August 22nd Kilosa was reached. The task had been most arduous. General Van Deventer paid a tribute to the conduct and spirit of the troops; "their endurance and hardships during long marches through dry and waterless stretches, on acutely rationed food," he wrote, "an achievement worthy of South African troops."

The enemy had retired to Mrogoro, on the Central Railway, and General Smuts endeavoured to bring him to bay at that place. "I was not then aware that a track went due south from Mrogoro through the mountains to Kisaki, and that the capture of the banks of the mountains would not achieve the end in view." Thus, when the troops closed in on Mrogoro (August 26th), it was only to find that the enemy had gone, the Commander-in-Chief, and Dr. Schone (the Governor) on the track due south of Mrogoro, and another force by the eastern or Kiroka route. Proofs were found at Mrogoro of the precipitate flight and demoralized condition of the enemy. Therefore, notwithstanding that his forces and animals were worn out with the exertion of the last three weeks and that his transport had reached its extreme radius of action, General Smuts decided to continue the pursuit into the Uluguru Mountains. "The enemy fought rearguard actions every day and held up our advance at every convenient place." The country was very well suited to his tactics.

On August 24/25 a part of Ensin's Brigade had a sharp action with the enemy near Malil. The enemy in vain endeavoured to dislodge Ensin's troops and then, having destroyed two native guns (one 3.4 in. and the other 4 in.) retired towards Mgeta Mission Station. The Germans had evidently meant to make a long and elaborate defence in the mountains, and "it was only the unexpected arrival of General Ensin at Malil, and the audacious and successful pursuit into the mountains combined with the operations of General Hoskins' Division on the other side of the mountains that had forced the enemy to abandon his plans." The Germans next retired to Kisaki, on the Mgeta River, and here they were attacked by General Brits on September 7th. Owing to the ruggedness of the terrain and the thickness of the bush the attack developed into two isolated efforts which led to "a double retirement and a regrettable recovery of enemy moral." On September 15th, however, the enemy was compelled to evacuate Kisaki. Driven from the Uluguru mountain he took up a defensive line along the Mgeta south of Dutumi and farther to the west astride the road from Kisaki to the Rufiji. Thither he was not pursued, as General Smuts' troops needed a thorough rest, not only on military but also on medical grounds.

At this point the review of the main operations stops. General Smuts next describes the occupation of Dar-es-Salaam (which the enemy did not defend) and the ports in the south of German East Africa. At Kilwa, occupied Sept. 7th, a strong column was landed for operations; it was proposed to conduct from that quarter. With respect to General Northery's operations, "conducted with remarkable ability and vigour," the occupation of Iringa on August 29th is noted, and General Smuts states that it would have been occupied much earlier but for his advice to General Northery "to slow down" while the line of retreat of the enemy's forces from the Central Railway was still uncertain. As to operations in the north-west, it is stated that difficulties of transport hindered the advance on Tabora of General Crewe and of Colonel Molitor's Belgian column, but that in the meantime the Belgian Ujiji column under Colonel Olsen had steadily moved forward. Colonel Molitor's column was early in September pushed south to co-operate with Colonel Olsen. Their combined operations caused the enemy to retreat, and on September 18th the Belgians occupied Tabora. A week later General Crewe's column reached the railway east of Tabora. The enemy retired in two columns, one under General Oberlander and then south, the other under Witgen southward via Sikonge.

Summing up the situation on October 27th, General Smuts describes the positions then held by the Germans, and adds:—"With the exception of the Mahenge plateau they have lost every healthy or valuable part of their colony." GEN. SMUTS' TRIBUTE TO HIS MEN.

"It would seem fit and proper to add a few words in recognition of the work done by the officers and men whom I have the honour to command. But in view of the foregoing statement of the main facts of the campaign, such eulogy seems unnecessary and misplaced. The plain tale of their achievements bears the most convincing testimony to the spirit, determination, and prodigious efforts of all ranks. Their work has been done under tropical conditions which not only produce bodily weariness and unhealthiness, but which create mental languor and depression and finally appal the stoutest hearts. To march day by day, and week by week, through the African jungle on high ground, which is limited to a few yards in which danger always lurks near by, seldom becomes visible, even when experienced, supplies a test to human nature often in the long run beyond the limits of human endurance. "And what is true of the fighting troops applies in one degree or another to all the subsidiary and administrative services. The efforts of all have been beyond praise, the strain on all has been overwhelming. May the end soon crown their labours."

A NEW IMPERIAL ORDER.

The *Times* understands that an official announcement may shortly be expected of the creation by the King of a new Imperial Order. The establishment of this new honour has been found necessary with a view to rewarding suitably those who have rendered special services, both in military and civil capacities, in connection with the war without unduly swelling the roll of other Orders, some of which have a limited membership. It is understood that the new distinction will be truly Imperial in the sense that all subjects of the Crown, both at home and overseas, will be eligible for its conferment as a reward for exceptional services in connection with the war.

OPEN BOATS. BLOODIEST KIND OF MURDER.

[BY ALFRED NOTES.]

The victims of the "open boat" system do not all die as quickly as the women and children of the *Lusitania*; but "civilization" is much too big and busy to keep count of the numerous obscure murders of the innocent and helpless at sea. We are told that their deaths are "unforeseeable." We are not told whether any "place of safety" had been arranged for the crew of the *Margaret Abbey*; but her crew was "approached" at Seattle, Tacoma, Panama, and Rio de Janeiro by certain mysterious agents and offered large sums of money if his steamer never arrived in France. This is the new warfare with a place of eternal safety for his own personal benefit. And Robert Louis Stevenson used to be reproached by the "crickets" for his "romantic" aloofness from the realities of our ordered life! My only criticism to-day is that Stevenson's romance, confronted, quite squarely by a contemporary, in an inn at Rio de Janeiro, looks uncommonly like the bloodiest kind of murder.

CASE OF "LA BELLE FRANCE"

One of the most curious methods of treating the crew of an attacked merchant ship is revealed in the case of the steamship *La Belle France*. On January 31st, 1916, she left Port Said for Dieppe, via Algeria, with a cargo of rapeseed, linseed, and barley from Karachi. She was unarmoured, for offence or defence. All went well till 2 p.m. on February 1st, when, without any warning, the ship was struck by a torpedo on the starboard side in the way of the cross-bunker holds. She listed heavily to starboard at once, and made much water, the hatchways from No. 2 and the cross bunker hold being burst open. All hands were promptly called to the boat-stations out in case of attack. No. 1 lifeboats on the starboard side were then found to be broken by the concussion and useless. International lawyers may well take note of this very common aspect of these attacks on merchant shipping.

The ship was listing more and more heavily, and all hands were ordered to the port side boats, two of which were lowered by the master and officers. The Lascars crews were ordered to keep close alongside the ship, but they were panic-stricken in the face of the new "frightfulness" and cast off from the ship without orders. The master and three other officers jumped into the boats from the deck. The chief officer, who was standing by the falls, and the chief engineer, who was stopping the engines, were left on board as the boats drifted away. The chief officer dived overboard and was picked up by No. 3 boat. The chief engineer, being unable to swim, remained on board till, as the vessel rolled herself, he succeeded in getting into No. 2 starboard boat, which was partly lowered. After about half an hour he was picked up by No. 3 boat.

GONE-LIKE ORVETTES.

No. 4 boat, in the meantime, had capsized. Some of the crew were swimming, and others were clinging to her bottom. The submarine rose to the surface, came alongside, and picked up these men. No. 3 boat was then called alongside the submarine by the officer in command and was ordered to stand by. The officer of the submarine took his revolver and threatened to shoot both crews if they came nearer. At this moment four trawlers were seen on the horizon and the submarine, sublimely oblivious of the shivering men it had just hauled on to its deck, dived with the whole bunch of them still standing there, and left them to flounder. Some of the surface as best they could. Some of them were saved by a good many being sucked down by the diving submarine. A delay of a few very seconds, of course, would have made it possible to save them all. But the whole affair throws a curious light on the German method. It might be described as the tempering of mercy with callousness, and reminds one of the nonsense-world of Edward Lear, whose creatures regarded one another with affectionate disgust.

The most excessive caution could hardly be regarded as this action as necessary to the safety of the U-boat; for the trawlers at this time were many miles away, black dots on the horizon. It seems to be one of many examples of a curious animosity that breaks (by way of reaction, perhaps) through the systematic soul of the German. He has carried his logic to the point of madness, and perhaps some law of compensation demands that it should be offset by an equally insane capriciousness. There seems to be no other explanation of the gruesome cruelties that have crept out of his once music-haunted mountains.

On one occasion a temporarily merciful German commander kindly offered to tow some open boats, which had been damaged and were leaking badly, into a place of safety. A new some aircraft in the distance, after the boats had been made fast, and as promptly dived with the boats behind him, not even waiting to cast loose. It was only after a frantic struggle and wild hacking with knives at tangled ropes in blind whirlpools that these men escaped with their lives. There is no doubt, a certain grotesque humour about this from the German point of view; but, when nineteen lives are lost and nineteen homes desolated, the laugh can hardly be a very hearty one, even in the cities of the new civilization.

WORLD GROWS TOO BIG FOR US.

It becomes more and more difficult, now, in a world that seems to have grown too big for the human intellect to keep more than a few of the facts before us at one time. One finds over and over again, well-meaning people who are at these hideous aspects of the matter but are content to regard them as a part of the new "sea warfare." They are unable to retain, apparently, more than half a dozen ideas simultaneously; unable to realize that all this has no relation whatever to "warfare"; that these men were non-combatants on merchant ships; and that, in a great many cases, they were the citizens and the ships of neutral countries. Nobody who can read all these facts simultaneously can come to

any other conclusion than that the charge of one of the world's most heinous crimes. Undoubtedly our world has grown too big for us.

It is difficult to imagine what must be the sensations of some of these merchant seamen, men who have been occupying their business in fishing or coasting-trade, and suddenly find themselves menaced by all these strange new devices. Some of these men are as wild and uneducated as a descent of savagery from another planet. The *Prinz Fisher*, more or less on her guard against attack from the sea, was surprised by an attack from the skies of a quite new kind.

The *Prinz Fisher* was a coasting trader of about 600 gross tons. She left Harlepool for Cowes, with a cargo of coal, on January 31st, 1916. She was unarmed. About 3.30 p.m. on February 1st, the ship was informed by a torpedo-boat that there were floating mines ahead. James Henry Birch, the chief engineer, said that at this time the weather was very fine, without wind or sea, but it was black dark. The engines were working full speed ahead, and the ship would be about 18 miles N.N.E. of the Kentish Knock. The master hailed him through the engine-room skylight, told him of the warning, and said he had decided to anchor. The ship anchored at about ten o'clock, and had two white anchor lights burning. The chief engineer went on deck to the cabin, which was amidships, to see the master.

ATTACK FROM THE SKIES.

While they were sitting in the cabin talking they heard a faint noise of aircraft. The master, who had just come off the bridge, called to them through the partition from his own cabin, asking them if they heard it. The master replied, "Yes, what is it?" The mate said he did not know, but whatever it was it was coming from the south-east. The sound then appeared to die away, but in about two minutes it became deafening. They got up to see what it was, and went through the short alley-way towards the deck. Just as Birch opened the door leading on to the deck, there was a terrific explosion, and the master and himself were knocked down back into the cabin, partly by the concussion and partly by a great mass of sea-water which had been heaved up by the explosion. When they were on their feet again they found they were soaking wet.

The ship steadied after the concussion, and everything seemed all right for a few moments. Birch rushed to the engine-room to call "all hands on deck," but just as he got there the second mate, second engineer, steward, donkey-man, and mess-room boy came on deck. They were all nearly naked, as they had been roused from sleep. By this time the ship was taking a heavy list to port. Birch and some of the crew hurried round to the starboard lifeboat, where some of the remainder were already assembled. One sailor was in the lifeboat, which was swung out ready for lowering. The ship was rapidly falling over to port. Her funnel was still intact, but it was too funnel to see if the masts were standing. In a few more seconds all the men were half-way to the bottom of the sea, fighting for life in a black whirlpool. The ship had sunk like a stone.

When Birch came gasping to the surface he looked round for any wreckage that might be floating, and saw the lifeboat which had stood on the bridge. He managed to get hold of this. Others of the crew swam up, until eight naked men were hanging on to the "reasonable place of safety" which had been so thoughtfully provided for them.

A NIGHT OF HORROR.

The scene that followed in the pitch black sea was a somewhat ghastly one. Some of the men tried to climb on top of the box, which had the result that it rolled over, and when it righted, several of them were missing. These panic-stricken efforts to climb out of the water—a common occurrence in such cases with men who are not practised swimmers, and many sailors are not—were repeated with horrible insistence, and each time the box rolled over, and rose with few men. At gulping and clutching and cursing. At last Birch swam away from the box, as the best way of saving his own life. He found a life-belt, which he put round him as best he could, and managed to keep afloat. After a time he lost consciousness, and when he recovered he was in a life-boat belonging to the Belgian steamer *Paul*. The steward and another sailor were also in the boat. They were taken aboard the *Paul*, and given dry clothes and hot coffee, about eight o'clock in the morning; but in their own night of horror they must have lived considerably more than the allotted span of life.

This attack on an unarmed ship at anchor had undoubtedly been made by a Zeppelin. One of the men on the bridge said afterwards that the aircraft seemed to be circling overhead in the darkness, dropping closer and closer to the vessel, like a great night-hawk attracted by the white anchor lights. It grew much louder than an aeroplane, more like "several express trains all crossing a bridge together," and at its loudest it was impossible to hear a man shout. Then there came a sudden silence, followed by the terrific explosion which flung the men about and dazed them.

It would be interesting to know how Germany would reconcile this attack with her well-known regard for international law. Possibly it was a "mistake." She may have mistaken a ship with so German a name for a fortified city like Scarborough, or perhaps for a cathedral in disguise. *Morning Post*.

THE SUPPRESSION OF ALCOHOL IN FRANCE.

The French Government has recently taken effective measures against alcoholism. On January 3rd all stocks of alcohol above 100 hectolitres (about 2,200 gallons) were requisitioned. As the import of alcohol is prohibited, the general requisitioning of stock is tantamount to closing very shortly all manufacturing of liquors and spirits. When these factories have exhausted what alcohol they have in store they will not be permitted to manufacture further supplies.

"OUR DAY" RESULT.

£1,098,000 FOR RED CROSS.

ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PRESS.

At the meeting of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John held at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall-mall, on January 17th, to hear the report of the "Our Day" collection, it was announced that £1,098,000 had been raised, which was £26,000 more than in 1915. The Duke of Connaught, Grand Prior of the Order of St. John, presided.

Sir Robert Hudson, on rising to make a statement of the amount received from "Our Day," said that in the remote parts of the Empire it took time to collect and remit the money, and even since October 30th of last year he had been receiving sums which he was asked to place to the credit of the previous year's collection. Thus it was fair to assume that it might be six months before they could actually say what the results of the last collection were.

Almost hourly fresh messages came showing what the generosity of the Empire was. He wished to acknowledge at once the immense debt which they owed to His Majesty the King and to all the members of the Royal Family for the help which they had given them in connection with "Our Day." (Cheers.)

To pay their way cost the society roughly £40,000 a week, or £2,000,000 a year. It was a gigantic sum, but it was the sum which they had received. They had, indeed, received more than that, and he had not the least doubt himself that they were going to receive it to the end of the previous year's collection. Thus it was fair to assume that it might be six months before they could actually say what the results of the last collection were.

The occasion has been marked, proclaimed Sir Robert, as you are aware, by a most gracious message from His Majesty the King, who has been pleased to congratulate the Joint Committee, *The Times* newspaper, and all who have either worked or given to our fund, upon the help which they have rendered to the sick and wounded members of His Majesty's Forces. I cannot with propriety say anything about the members of the Joint Committee, because I am myself a member of that committee. I will only add that, for my part, the Joint Committee is identified always with Mr. Arthur Stanley. (Cheers.)

THANKS TO "THE TIMES."

Of our debt to the countless subscribers and workers I shall leave others to speak; but I ask to be permitted, as chairman of the Joint Finance Committee, to say one word about our obligations to *The Times*. In the early weeks of the war, when we did not know what was expected of us, what our expenditure was likely to be, what our revenue was likely to be, this question of finance was one of grave responsibility for those who were charged with the conduct of your finances. One evening about a fortnight after the war had broken out when we were at Devonshire House, I received a call from Lord Northcliffe, who practically in a few words placed at our services the columns of *The Times*, and from that moment the Finance Committee no longer had any anxiety on the subject of finance. Since that evening at Devonshire House *The Times* has made our needs known day by day to the whole of the English-speaking people. It has announced with the most extraordinary accuracy every subscription which we have received. The Finance Committee would indeed be untrue if they did not recognize that though they cannot do it, the debt which they owe to *The Times* is enormous. But no organization and no amount of hard work which is done by your various workers and committees could account for the results which we have to announce if it were not for two things—the indomitable determination of the race that they will win the war, and the equally indomitable determination that those who are sick and wounded in our service shall be cared for. (Cheers.)

Mr. Arthur Stanley read the list prepared by Sir Charles Russell of those who deserved special mention for their services in making "Our Day" a success at home and abroad. He said the first name on the list was deservingly that of Miss Beaman, the originator of Queen Alexandra Day, who organized the sale of flags in the streets. (Cheers.) Something like 35,000,000 flags were distributed to different parts of the Empire. The Duke of Connaught moved the following resolution:—

"That the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John tender to the subscribers at home and overseas their deep and sincere thanks for the magnificent response to the appeal of the joint societies in connection with 'Our Day'."

He said there was not a part of the Empire which had not responded in the most liberal manner to the call on behalf of our wounded sailors and soldiers. It showed that the Empire was at one with us in the war, and desired to show their appreciation of the gallant services of our Navy and Army. (Cheers.) I am sure we have all read with great pleasure (the Duke continued) the special message from the King to-day thanking all those who have promoted the success of "Our Day." His Majesty very justly directed his remarks, in particular to *The Times*. *The Times*, as you know, has been invaluable in the great support and assistance it has given in promoting anything connected with the work of the Red Cross, and in generously placing its columns at our disposal from a fortnight after war was declared. More and more we feel that however large the donations have been in the past they must be equally large in the future if we wish to continue to do what we have hitherto done in helping the wounded. (Hear, hear.) It is a great pleasure to me to know that the Red Cross has been working in connection with the Royal Army Medical Corps. I desire to say how greatly I admire the branch of His Majesty's Forces, and how very proud I feel when I think of the

magnificent services they have rendered during this war. (Cheers.)

LORD LANSDOWNE ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

Lord Lansdowne, in seconding the resolution, paid a warm tribute to the workers both at home and overseas, and said that in those workers they had a great reserve of energy and activity upon which they had never called in vain and upon which they might have to call again. The result of what they had done had been to place the two societies in the unassailable financial position which they held at that moment.

In the early days of the war there certainly were days when some of them had an uneasy feeling as to their ability to hold their own in making the essential preparations here, and as to the permanence of the support which they were likely to obtain from the public. Those meetings had, he was happy to say, passed away. In a few days the public would have before it the report for the year ending October, 1916. That report would show a credit balance of a sum approaching a million and a half. It was that there was to be added the additional amount collected on the last "Our Day" which would bring the total up to some three and a half million and a half. That was a very magnificent performance.

Our debt of gratitude to *The Times* is one which can never be forgotten. Although they had such a large sum of money at their command, it must not be supposed that they were in a position of boundless affluence. A considerable part of that balance was already earmarked for certain specific purposes and could not be devoted to other objects without unfairness to the generous donors by whom the money was provided. There was another element which they had not to lose sight of. They were continually assuming new liabilities. They had surely assumed one liability which he was sure they must all be only too ready to assume—he meant the liability for sending food to British prisoners of war in foreign countries. They had also lately undertaken the alleviation of certain classes of those poor fellows who had become broken men in the course of this war, and for whom everyone of them felt the keenest and most sympathetic solicitude. They were also contemplating another new departure which might prove a somewhat costly one to them. They thought the time had come for considering whether they ought not to do a little more for their local branches, to whom they owed a great deal. The War Office required new hospitals or increased accommodation in the old hospitals, and they should endeavour, not indiscreetly, but only in cases where a clear claim could be made out, to do something for the local branch from headquarters.

There had been many glorious incidents and episodes in this war, but none had been more glorious or more significant than the manner in which all the parts of our great Empire had stood together and presented one solid front during this great struggle. They had let us feel not merely that they were supporting us out of a feeling of external good will and sympathy, but because they realized that our struggle was their struggle and our cause their cause; and they meant to see us through to a victorious end. (Cheers.) It was not the time for a review of what our Overseas Dominions had done for us in the way of providing armed contingents to join our arms in the field, but they would have believed it if they had been told before the war that the Dominion of Canada, in which, like his Royal Highness, he ventured to take a very special and a very deep interest, would contribute a contingent exceeding in number the total of the British Expeditionary Force which we had in contemplation to place in the field whenever we found ourselves involved in any international struggle!

The greatest Dominions down to the smallest of the Crown Colonies had come forward and ungrudgingly given in abundance the contributions for which we asked them. We had all been proud of the Empire over which the sun never set, but the sun hereafter would shine upon an Empire very different from the old Empire, as we had known it in the past. The air was full of rumours of great political changes which were likely to occur when the war was over, but whatever they might be of this we might rest assured, that the feelings of the people of the different communities of which the Empire was formed would be from this time forth different from what they had been in the past. The recollection of those events would be an influence in connection with thinking the workers in the home front, the effort, he thought, had borne a hundredfold part in strengthening the imperial edifice which we all desired to see constructed in the future. (Cheers.) The resolution was carried.

THE PART OF "THE TIMES."

Lord Northcliffe, who spoke next, said:—I feel somewhat in a false position in replying to the very generous compliments of Sir Robert Hudson in regard to the work of one of my newspapers, because that newspaper was only one of thousands and ten of thousands that have most splendidly given their services in every part of the world to the Red Cross. It would be quite impossible for any one newspaper to accomplish any proportion of the grand result that has attended the efforts of so many people and so many newspapers. All a newspaper can do is to be a constant reminder, and a faithful recorder. The newspaper can do nothing without the worker. The newspaper could not have created that most wonderful flag days. "Our Day" without Miss Beaman and her loyal and vigorous-looking supporters. (Laughter.) Newspapers, as we all know, usually suffer from excess of modesty and miss particularly so on this occasion to remove any impression that may prevail that they claim for *The Times* that it is at all the sole journalistic worker in the cause. Every London newspaper, every provincial newspaper, every Canadian, New Zealand, South African, Australian, and New Zealand newspaper, has given its priceless publicity to the cause. (Hear, hear.) As one who has long some organization I can assure you that the Red Cross system is to me a perpetual marvel.

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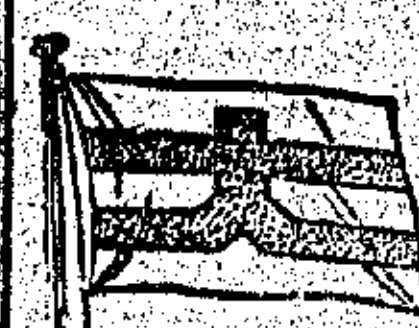
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